



HEAVY FINES CALL ON LITTERBUGS

Report by Richard Guttridge

TOUGHER fines are needed to deter litter louts, it has been argued, after rubbish was strewn over a popular playing field in Burntwood.

Beer bottles and other rubbish was left on the fields at Coppy Nook at the weekend just as junior football matches were due to be played there.

Town councillor Eric Drinkwater said higher penalties could be a way to deter people from leaving rubbish in parks and on fields popular with families and children. He said it was also up to people to be responsible for their actions as he slammed the littering on Coppy Nook as 'disgusting'.

The councillor said part of the problem was having enough officers on the streets to catch them in the act.

He said: "It's disgusting. Playing fields are a very important facility in the community, especially in this day and age with everyone screaming about with young people needing to keep fit and this is what is happening."

Despair

"If somebody is making a mess and it is not being cleared up then they ought to be doing more. But it's disgusting people think they can throw rubbish here, there and everywhere."

"I think if they are caught the fines should be trebled. To do that we have got to have people on the ground to witness these things. People might witness it but we probably get one in 100 who will report it. It wants more people on the ground to catch them at it."

The councillor added: "I understand people getting fed up about it. I despair at this sort of behaviour, I don't understand why people do it."

Parent Diane Davies said: "I couldn't believe the bottles and mess strewn over the field on Saturday morning. It was a lovely day for football and there were three matches, dozens of children and parents – many visiting from outside the area. What sort of impression does this leave?"

"People were walking their dogs and young children running around the field. They shouldn't have to step over beer bottles."

She added: "Why do these litter louts expect someone else to clean up after them?"

Last month it was revealed more than 15,000 fly-tipping cases were recorded in Staffordshire between April 2015 and September 2017.

SPITFIRE STAR TURN AT VE DAY ANNIVERSARY



The Spitfire flies over Cannock Chase for the VE Day celebrations. Credit: Robert Feeley

A SPITFIRE took to the skies over Cannock to mark the anniversary of VE Day.

Hundreds of people had gathered at the Museum of Cannock Chase in Hednesford to

enjoy the festivities, many in period costume.

The Spitfire flyover was the highlight of the event, which also included re-enactors and musical entertainment. Tuesday (May 8),

marked the 73rd anniversary of VE Day. It is the third year the attraction, in Valley Road, has held the commemorative event.

● More pictures on Page 2

EMERGENCY

Fire crews tackle blaze on wasteland

PLUMES of black smoke could be seen for miles around following a blaze on wasteland in Hednesford.

Crews were called to a large amount of rubbish set alight at the rear of Market Street just before 6pm on Monday.

A Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service spokesman said: "The fire involved rubbish on wasteland to the rear of Market Street. Initially we had four pumps and our water carrier at the scene at the height of the fire, as it was a large amount of rubbish."

"This was reduced to two pumps afterwards."

BIRTHDAY

Go ape with party at aerial adventure

A LUCKY youngster can have a birthday to remember, by taking on the Go Ape! obstacle course on Cannock Chase.

The aerial attraction is celebrating 10 years and during that time has welcomed nearly 350,000 visitors. To mark the occasion, bosses are looking for someone who turns 10 the same day – May 22 – to offer a birthday party at the Birches Valley site.

The winner will be drawn from entries made at its Facebook page.

FAIR

Church heralding the onset of spring

A BURNTWOOD church is heralding the glorious weather with a spring fair this weekend.

Tombola, stalls and cakes, and Ploughman's Lunches for £4 – including a desert and drink – are all on offer at Chase Terrace Methodist Church, Princess Street, from from 11am to 2pm on Saturday.

INSIDE BLESSING FOR FANS' GROUP



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Pilot success earns officer recognition



From left, Peter Reynolds, Chief Inspector Sarah Wainwright, Neil Sherratt and Martin Steventon

A STAFFORDSHIRE Police chief inspector has been honoured for her contribution to a national pilot aimed at improving the management of low-risk offenders and reducing the prison population.

Chief Inspector Sarah Wainwright was presented with the national award by Chief Constable Simon Cole of Leicestershire Police at their headquarters.

The scheme involved testing the effectiveness of GPS tagging for offenders who are subject to community orders, suspended sentences,

parole board cases and imposed bail conditions.

Officers from forces in Leicestershire, West Midlands and Nottinghamshire were also involved in the trial.

Ch Insp Wainwright said: "It was a privilege to be involved in such an exciting initiative and I feel honoured to receive this award on behalf of Staffordshire Police and the Offender Management team.

"The pilot was a great example of officers from different forces coming together to work as a team and put-

ting our varied experience to such good use."

Ch Insp Wainwright has been a Staffordshire Police officer since 1992 - with spells in Lichfield, Cannock Chase and Tamworth.

In that time, she has managed its fraud unit, worked in the major investigation department and most recently was responsible for offender management.

She was promoted to Detective Chief Inspector in 2013 before taking over as Cannock's local policing commander last year.

61 patients wait 12 hours for treatment

A TOTAL of 61 patients in Staffordshire waited for 12 hours on a trolley while at hospital, shocking new figures have revealed.

A report released by The University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust shows standards 'were not met' during the month of March this year.

The national standard hospitals are expected to meet per month for the number of people waiting is zero - but 61 people were left waiting at Stafford's County Hospital and Royal Stoke University Hospital for 12 hours, figures show.

In November 2016, the trust reported 237 12-hour trolley waits during that month. But while the problem appears to have improved, one leading Staffordshire figure has said it still is not good enough.

Compassion

Councillor Frank Finlay, cabinet member for health at Stafford Borough Council, called the figures 'poor'.

He said: "It seems to be a persistent problem and not the first time we've had this issue at the hospital.

"It does need to be addressed. When people are ill they expect they will be treated properly and with compassion and care. Just lying on a trolley is not the best way to get better."

Councillor Finlay said he hoped that with the warmer months approaching, the pressure could be taken off A&E.

He added: "We know that this happens quite frequently in the winter months but now that summer has arrived I'm hoping there is not as much pressure on the hospital. But these figures are very poor."

The waiting time for an emergency admission via A&E is measured from the time when the decision is made to admit a patient, to the time when the patient is admitted.

Patients are supposed to be admitted as quickly as possible, but the limit is 12 hours.

The trust was unavailable for comment at the time of going to press.

Spitfire wings in at celebration



Crowds in period costume. Pic: Museum of Cannock Chase

MORE than 1,000 people enjoyed VE Day celebrations at a Cannock Chase attraction over the weekend.

It was on May 8, 1945 that the then Prime Minister Winston Churchill took to the microphone to announce to the packed streets of London and the rest of the country that World War Two was over after six years of fighting.

To mark the 73-year milestone, a Spitfire darted through the sky for the celebrations at the Museum of Cannock Chase.

The attraction, in Valley Road, Hednesford, took a step back in time to celebrate the day, which marks the success of the Allied forces over the Axis powers.

Visitors, some vintage dresses

with curls in their hair and Army outfits, enjoyed live music from the Henderson Big Band and a local choir One Accord. It was the third time the museum had staged the event.

A mix of re-enactors and visitors enjoyed corned beef hash and cream teas by vintage cars and trucks or tents decorated with Union Jack bunting before exploring the stalls selling vintage products.

Visitor services officer Rachel Gentle said: "It was a glorious day.

"It was a great throw back to the 1940s and the Spitfire was a big draw for people to come along.

"A big thank you goes out to the re-enactors who made the atmosphere fantastic."



Exhibiting wares at the event



Enjoying the celebrations

RSPCA plea after skinny dog is left abandoned

THE RSPCA has launched an investigation after an extremely skinny dog was abandoned in Staffordshire. The dog was later put to sleep because of her condition.

The black lurcher - nicknamed Bambi - was found on the B5014 by Elmhurst Water Spring on April 27 by a member of the public. They took her to a Rugeley vets who in turn contacted the charity.

RSPCA inspector Kate Levesley said: "Bambi was so skinny and had clearly been losing weight for some considerable time.

"She had no microchip and was not wearing a collar or ID tag so we have no idea where she has come from or what her background is.

"She was in a really bad way and sadly, staff later found that as well as being extremely weak and poorly, she also had a serious neurological problem and vets made the difficult decision to put her to sleep to end her suffering."

The RSPCA has now launched an investigation as to how Bambi came to be in this poor condition and who is responsible.

Call the helpline on 0300 1234 999.



Bambi the dog

Strictly star Pasha in theatre date

STRICTLY Come Dancing favourite Pasha Kovalev will delight fans in Cannock later this month.

Kovalev, who lifted the Glitterball Trophy while partnering Caroline Flack four years ago, brings his 'The Magic Of Hollywood' show to the Prince of Wales Centre, Church Street, on May 27. Dancing alongside him will be Anya Garnis, who has also appeared on the hit BBC show.

The popular pair will be joined again by dancers, as well as pupils from Rugeley's Class One Dance Academy.

The Cannock show starts at 7.30pm, with tickets priced at £24.50. Book on 01543 578762 or at <http://www.princeof-wales.live/>

It will be preceded by a performance at Dudley Town Hall on May 19.

Church mini-market

A MINI-MARKET is to be held at St Stephen's Church in Bideford Way, Cannock, on Saturday from 9.30 to 11.15am. There will be various stalls including toys, books, gifts, jigsaws, clothes and cakes, along with a cafe serving homemade cakes. Call 01543 462283.

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Knockout night is on cards with boxer Fury

CONTROVERSIAL former boxing world champion Tyson Fury will entertain fans on what is sure to be a knockout night in Cannock.

Fury, who won the unified world titles after defeating champion Vladimir Klitschko, will appear at Bar Sport's Premier Suite in High Green on July 5.

Fury was later stripped of his titles and has been out of the ring since November 2015 following a medical investigation and personal issues, and two cancellations of the Klitschko rematch.

However, he is due to make a comeback in the ring on June 9 and is set for a total of three comeback fights in 2018.

On the night fans can enjoy a gourmet meal, after dinner speech with Q and A and an opportunity to have their photograph taken with Fury as well as entertainment from a comedian. Tickets start at £55.

Scott Murray, owner of The Premier Suite, said: "I am delighted to announce we have Tyson Fury coming to Cannock on July 5. It is another massive coup for Cannock and boxing fans. It is just a huge year for the Premier Suite as we have some of the greatest names in sport coming to the venue during the year."

Before Fury makes an appearance at the Premier Suite former four-weight world champion Roy Jones Jr will appear at the venue on May 21. He is the only boxer in history to start his professional career at light middleweight and go on to win a heavyweight title. He is a six-time world champion in four weight classes, namely middleweight, super middleweight, light heavyweight and heavyweight. Tickets for that event start at £45.

Call 01543 572092.

Riders in saddle for a tour of city

CYCLISTS can head off on an 11-mile Tour de Lichfield next weekend.

Departing at 10am on May 20 from Curborough Community Centre on Reynolds Close, it is the third of seven free Cycle Rides for All, organised by Lichfield District Council. Under 16s must be accompanied by an adult.

For the full Cycle Rides for All programme, visit www.lichfelddc.gov.uk/cyclerides

Trust coffee time

STAFFORDSHIRE Wildlife Trust will host its monthly coffee morning from 10am to noon tomorrow (Friday). Visitors to the Wolseley Centre, near Rugeley, can enjoy tea or coffee and cakes and browse book stands.

Collymore helps towards funding goal



Youngster Harry Titley

FORMER Villa footballer Stan Collymore has helped a one-year-old boy with brittle bone disease towards a fundraising goal.

The Cannock star picked up on the fundraising campaign to help Harry Titley enjoy a kickaround in his garden.

Donations flooded in after Harry's father Jason launched the appeal. Their garden in Cannock needs adapting as it is in an unsafe condition for the youngster to safely get around. Collymore posted the plea on social media

and called for people to help out. As Jason is a Liverpool supporter, the family were boosted by fellow fans, who pledged their support.

The youngster has a broken arm, rib and femurs and receives treatment at Birmingham Children's Hospital every two months.

A fundraising page was set up for Harry which hoped to raise £2,000. It said: "We recently moved into a bungalow but the garden is totally unsafe for him to use. His mum can't do it as she

is caring for Harry and his dad suffers from the same condition.

"We are hoping to raise funds to help make the garden safe for Harry. Any extra money will be donated to the brittle bones society charity to help other children with the same condition."

Proud father Jason said: "This will make a huge difference to Harry to finally have somewhere safe for him to play and be as normal as he can to any other little boy his age so a massive thank you."



Stan Collymore

MP: 'I'm sorry' over online slur to teenager

MP Michael Fabricant has said he will apologise for calling a teenager a 't*' after an online backlash.**

However, the Lichfield Conservative insisted he did not know the meaning of the word.

It follows an online row between Mr Fabricant and constituent Darcy Norgate, aged 19.

She accused him of neglecting Burntwood and called him 'weak and wobbly' in response to his tweet on Friday about last week's local elections. He responded by calling her a 't***' and followed it up with 14 tweets or retweets justifying his use of offensive language until three days later when he said he would apologise.

He posted on the social media platform: "I would love to meet up with @Darcycanfly to apologise for a word which I did not know meant anything other than 'twit' - and for a number of other reasons too. Here's why and, as I said yesterday, I hope she contacts me through letter or my website."

He had previously failed to apologise, claiming he did not know what the word meant. He also claimed she may have been a 'Russian troll' because she had no details about her age or location on her Twitter profile.

Mr Fabricant said that he would happily meet Miss Norgate to talk about politics in his original statement but did not mention saying sorry.

Miss Norgate posted her own statement online that said she wanted an apology and that she 'will not be bullied or intimidated despite the best efforts of Mr Fabricant and his followers.'

She has not yet commented on whether she will take up the offer to meet the MP.



Mr Fabricant MP



Darcy Norgate



On target - Mike Shepherd will be competing in the British Transplant Games - 'I'm doing it in honour of my donor'

Op man Mike is aiming for glory

A GRANDFATHER of two who was given weeks to live before undergoing a liver transplant is getting ready to compete at the British Transplant Games.

Mike Shepherd, from Stafford, began feeling ill in 2003 but was told by his GP he was suffering from gastroenteritis. His condition deteriorated until in 2012 he gave up his job as a railway operations manager.

In 2015 he was rushed to hospital where end stage liver disease was diagnosed.

He was found a match within two weeks but his recovery was slow until joining Stafford Archers and meeting John Dunster, of Bow Sports in Penkridge, who became his personal coach.

Now he will be competing as an archer in the British Transplant Games in Birmingham in August. Mike said: "I felt very guilty that someone had to die for me to live, so I'm also doing it in honour of my donor."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Last few tickets to see legend Gazza

ENGLAND football legend Paul Gascoigne is in Cannock tonight (Thursday) - and a handful of tickets are still on sale.

'Gazza', who starred at Italia 90 and at Euro 96, is at Bar Sport's Premier Suite, High Green, for a World Cup warm-up event.

Fans have flocked to buy tickets for the evening with the former Newcastle, Tottenham, Lazio, Rangers, Middlesbrough and Everton midfielder.

The venue has confirmed that just a few gold and silver tickets for the evening remain.

Call 01543 572092 for details, and to book.

Church plant sale to follow market

A CHURCH in Great Wyrley hosts its popular mini-market this weekend.

It is being staged at Wyrley Wesley Methodist Church, Walsall Road, from 10.30am to noon on Saturday.

Various stalls will include a raffle, bric-a-brac, tombola, cakes and local crafts.

Refreshments will be available, including tea/coffee and bacon sandwiches.

The church's annual plant sale will follow on three successive Saturdays, May, 26 and June 2 and 9, from 8am to 2pm. Admission is free.

Grass blaze put out by fire crews

FIVE fire crews tackled a 'large grass fire' in Huntington on Bank Holiday Monday.

Emergency services were called out to Midland Road at around 12.10pm.

A Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service spokesman said: "We were called out to Midland Road at 12.10pm and five fire engines were sent to the scene with a water carrier from Cannock."

"They surrounded the fire to extinguish it and it was out by around 1.30pm but crews were still there and hour later tidying up."

Plea for volunteers to assist veterans

VOLUNTEERS are needed to help veterans in Staffordshire.

SSAFA, the Armed Forces charity, is recruiting for people to provide support to those currently serving and those who have served in the past, along with their dependants.

Rev John Davis, SSAFA chairman, said: "Sometimes they need our help when problems arise."

Anyone who can offer to help should call 01785 212680.

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COUNTY NEWS

Group raises £2.5k for Alzheimer's

A BUSINESS has raised thousands of pounds for a dementia support and research charity.

Staff at the Black Country Housing Group teamed up with customers to raise £2,500 for the Alzheimer's Society through sports days, car washes, theatre trips and tea parties. The business, based in Blackheath, has agreed to match fund the amount raised, bringing the total to £5,000.

BCHG provides affordable homes and care services in Sandwell, Dudley, Wolverhampton, Walsall and Birmingham. Boss Amanda Tomlinson said: "We are extremely proud to donate to such a worthy cause."

Fairport call in for Walsall gig

LEGENDARY folk-rockers Fairport Convention are gigging in the Black Country on Saturday.

The band that have produced more than 28 records will arrive at the Forest Arts Centre's A3 Arena in Walsall ahead of their ever-popular Cropredy Convention festival in Oxfordshire in August.

Their Liege & Lief album is regarded as the most influential folk album of all time.

Their latest record last year, 50:50@50, celebrated the golden anniversary of the band, who are showing few signs of letting up just yet. Tickets for the show are priced at £22.

Firms' workloads are building up

WORKLOADS of small and medium-sized construction firms grew slightly in the first three months of this year despite record numbers of builders reporting rising material prices.

The Federation of Master Builders' latest State of Trade survey, the only quarterly assessment of the UK-wide SME construction sector, saw 49 per cent of firms predict rising workloads in the coming three months, up from 38 per cent in the previous quarter.

Cheers! As beer and cider festival returns

THE Kinver Summer Craft Beer and Cider Festival is back next month, running from 5pm to midnight on Friday June 8 and noon to midnight on the Saturday.

The popular event takes place at Kinver Sports and Community Association in Legion Drive. Admission will be £3 with a glass or £1 without. There will also be live music and street food.

How they voted: Results in full from district elections

Brereton and Ravenhill (Lib Dem hold)
Paul Fisher (Lib Dem) - 614
Lorraine Northway (Cons) - 404
Jacqueline Prestwood (Lab) - 449
Sarah Thomas-Dean (UKIP) - 80

Heath Hayes East and Wemblebury (Cons gain)
Kenny Beardmore (Green) - 76
Les Bullock (Lab) - 445
Martyn Buttery (Cons) - 512
Dave Morris (UKIP) - 132

Cannock East (Lab hold)
Arlene Carmichael (Green) - 68
Muriel Davis (Lab) - 680

Mick Howes (UKIP) - 109
Johnny McMahon (Cons) - 505

Cannock North (Lab hold)
Frank Allen (Lab) - 791
Peter Kruskonjic (Cons) - 364
Jodie Winter (Green) - 118

Cannock South (Lab hold)
John Dawkins (Cons) - 575
Scarlett Ward (Green) - 89
Kev Whittaker (UKIP) - 123
Paul Witton (Lab) - 679

Cannock West (Cons hold)
Edmund Frondigoun (Lab) - 462

Maire Smith (Green) - 128
Hyra Sutton (Cons) - 1,335

Etching Hill and The Heath (Cons gain)
Pat Ansell (Lib Dem) - 153
Michael Sheridan (Green) - 110
Paul Startin (Cons) - 787
Jeffrey Winter (Lab) - 379

Hednesford Green Heath (Lab hold)
George Adamson (Lab) - 591
Marg Dean (UKIP) - 31
Bryan Jones (Cons) - 519
Andrea Muckley (Green) - 68
Ronald Turville (Indep) - 29

Rawnsley (Green gain)
Aaron Bate (Lab) - 329
Mick Jackson (UKIP) - 59
Val Jones (Cons) - 439
Claire Wilkinson (Green) - 480

Hawks Green (Cons gain)
Eloise Cropp (Green) - 96
Phil Hewitt (Cons) - 727
Josh Mills (Lab) - 344
Dave Percox (UKIP) - 74

Hednesford North (Lab hold)
Sheila Cartwright (Lab) - 635
Mandy Dunnett (Green) - 274
Wendy Yates (Cons) - 472

Norton Canes (Lab hold)
Adrienne Fitzgerald (Cons) - 747
John Preece (Lab) - 960
Glen Tapper (Green) - 72

Western Springs (Cons gain)
Ken Ansell (Lib Dem) - 50
Kieran Green (Lab) - 368
Mick Grocott (Indep) - 362
Olivia Lyons (Cons) - 839

Political make-up: Labour control (Lab - 21; Cons - 15; Green - 3; Lib Dem - 1; Indep - 1)
Turnout: 28 per cent

Tories gain, but Labour clings on to control



Martyn Buttery celebrates his win



Council leader George Adamson looks pensive on election night



New Green councillor Claire Wilkinson

CONSERVATIVE gains were not enough to wrest control of Cannock Chase Council as Labour stays in power by a majority of just one.

The Tories gained four seats on an encouraging election night last Thursday, leaving the party with 15 in total.

Despite the Conservative gains, it was not enough to overthrow Labour, whose 21 seats ensures the party stays in control by the most slender of margins.

For the Conservatives, Phil Hewitt (Hawks Green), Olivia Lyons

(Western Springs) and Paul Startin (Etching Hill and the Heath) were all appointed the council for the first time.

Former UKIP deputy leader Martyn Buttery celebrated his win for the Tories in Heath Hayes East and Wemblebury.

There was delight for the Green Party, however, as its candidate Claire Wilkinson took Rawnsley, boosting its total of seats on the council to three. There is one independent and one Lib Dem councillor.

Council leader George Adamson said: "We are pleased. We have kept our control and we are very grateful

for the people who voted. We shall continue expanding our leisure facilities in the area and build a car park at Bradbury Lane like we promised. We are going to keep our council taxes as low as possible."

Pleased

Opposition leader Paul Snape said: "We're disappointed the council is still in Labour's hands but we are pleased with the work put in by everybody."

"We have taken some more seats. The average age of the party has come down," he added.

"We have three councillors that are under 30. We're hoping people see we

have younger councillors and can be a party for young people."

Cannock Chase MP, the Conservative Amanda Milling said: "It has been a good night. I am really pleased with the hard work of the candidates. We have had some good wins and have held Cannock West."

Meanwhile Paul Woodhead, leader of the local Green Party, said: "It was all quite positive. We got the one we wanted to win in Rawnsley."

"It is good they have a councillor that lives and works in the area."

"This gives us something more to build on."

● Letters - Page 8

Joe proves he is still a genuine Showman

REVIEW - Joe McElderry, Prince of Wales Centre, Cannock

MY little sister has a lot to answer for. She probably wasn't even married with children when she fell in love with Joe McElderry in his X factor days. Even now that flame still burns.

Indeed, the only time she visited Cannock was to see her idol during his last tour, so I was honoured when she said she was coming here again. But only to see Joe, of course.

And he didn't let down his legion of fans. The Geordie singer remains popular, and a near-full auditorium - mainly women - enjoyed a two-hour show.

He promised some old stuff, new material and songs that may not have been heard before. And he kept his promise, beginning with songs from The Greatest Showman soundtrack before Someone Wake Me Up got fans up and applauding early.

There's A Place For Us, which he recorded for the Narnia film series, was a rare treat, being performed only on this current tour, while fans had to wait until near the end for that well-known Christmas No 2 The Climb.

The second half began with Any Dream Will Do and Close Every Door from Joseph and he turned his hand at requests from the audience in Jukebox Joe. He went on to dedicate Celine Dion's Because You Love Me to his auntie Chris on her birthday, brought things bang up to date with covers of Rita Ora's Anywhere and New Rules by Dua Lipa before Fahrenheit had them dancing in the aisles.

Mark Shipp

Elderly couple's bank cards stolen

BANK cards were stolen from the home of an elderly couple by two men who claimed to be from the water board.

Residents have been urged not to let anyone into their homes who cannot prove who they are following the incident in Cannock last Thursday.

The men rifled through several rooms before the bank cards were taken from a handbag.

Lydia Hooley, community engagement officer at Staffordshire Police, said: "We are urging residents, particularly the elderly and vulnerable, to be on their guard. We are reminding residents to never allow any unsolicited visitors into their home, however convincing they may sound."

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The wrong patient is given laser eye surgery

LASER eye treatment was given to the wrong patient following a hospital mix-up. The error happened when the wrong patient entered the treatment room at the University of North Midlands Hospital Trust's ophthalmology department when called, before undergoing treatment.

The gaffe has been classed as a 'never event' – something which all hospitals should avoid – and will now be investigated by health bosses.

A report revealed it was one of two 'never events' at the trust, which runs County Hospital in Stafford and the Royal Stoke Hospital, during the final quarter of 2017/18.

The other saw a patient given a nerve block in the wrong part of their body when receiving anaesthetic. However, the mistake, which saw the nerve block given in the patient's right arm, was spotted before surgery and the patient was informed.

The trust said neither patient came to any harm and that both cases were being taken 'seriously' and were under review. The correct patient was given laser surgery when the error was flagged up.

Spokesman Thomas Peace said: "UHNH has strict protocols to investigate fully any serious incidents that are recorded in our hospitals. Although there was no harm to either patient, we take all incidents of this nature extremely seriously."

Three held over theft from safes

TWO men – aged 20 and 23 – and a 15-year-old boy were arrested on suspicion of burglary after two incidents in Penkridge.

Police said victims were followed into their houses after being asked to pay for work being carried out.

Thousands of pounds in cash was stolen after the suspects managed to obtain safe keys.

Officers from South Staffordshire local policing team carried out the initial investigations and passed on details of a vehicle reportedly involved, a white Citroen van, to the Central Motorway Police Group (CMPG).

Within an hour of the information being shared, CMPG stopped the vehicle, made the arrests and recovered the stolen money.

Day in Derbyshire

CHASE Ramblers' walk this Sunday is a nine-mile moderate route from Ilam and Stanshope, in Derbyshire, meeting as usual at Hedgesford railway station car park for a 9am prompt departure. Call 01543 685425.

Leaders appointed for local police teams



Chief Insp Mark Smith

TWO new neighbourhood policing team chiefs have been appointed in Staffordshire.

Chief Inspector Mark Ward, aged 45, is the new leader for the South Staffordshire local neighbourhood police team, while Chief Insp Mark Smith, 44, is now the head of the Lichfield policing area.

Mr Ward will be responsible for Wombourne, Kinver, Codsall, Penkridge, Pattingham, Perton, Essington and Huntington.

The father-of-one moved to Staffordshire last year after serving 21

years with West Midlands Police. He began his career as a constable in Wolverhampton, before moving to Birmingham as an inspector in 2009.

In February 2017 he transferred forces and became deputy commander at Cannock before taking up his new post at South Staffordshire. He said: "I'm really looking forward to getting to know the local communities and area and build upon the excellent work already in place."

Mr Smith will cover Fazeley, Whittington, Burntwood, Chase-

town, Shenstone, Stonnall and Little Aston. The father-of-two has been with Staffordshire Police since 1993 as a uniformed constable in Stafford and has since been a response and neighbourhood officer in Tamworth where he later became the force's lead tactical firearms commander.

He said: "I am absolutely delighted to have the chance to return to head up neighbourhood policing, which is the bedrock of policing."



Chief Insp Mark Ward

Catering spares group's £20m HQ wins award

A NEW headquarters in Cannock for a catering equipment company has won one of the region's top building awards.

The £20 million new home of First Choice Catering Spares on the Kingswood Lakeside site won the Commercial prize at the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) Awards 2018, held at the Grand Station in Wolverhampton.

First Choice moved its 140 staff into the purpose-built 100,000 sq ft facility last year after outgrowing its previous base in Hawks Green. The company has been based in Cannock for two decades, growing into the UK's leading supplier of spare parts for the commercial catering industry.

The big winner of the night was the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, which was named West Midlands Project of the Year.



First Choice Catering Spares at Kingswood Lakeside, Cannock

Inspirational

More than 22 of the region's most impressive and community beneficial property schemes battled it out for top honours.

The annual RICS Awards West Midlands aim to celebrate inspirational initiatives in the region's land, property and construction sectors. BBC Midlands Today news presenter Mary Rhodes was the host for the sell-out ceremony.

As well as the First Choice building, the other winners included the new National College for High Speed Rail in Birmingham which picked up the Regeneration award.

And the Building Conservation prize went to the visitor centre, biomass plant, and Stables Café renovation at Attingham Park, Shrewsbury.

All category winners will compete against other regional winners at the national RICS Awards Grand Final in London on November 2 for the chance to be crowned the overall UK winner in their respective category.

Anthony's nice little earner on a plate



Anthony Price, left, shows his 100-year-old White Star Line side plate to valuer Dave Eglington

THE price was right for a man who took a plate to be valued at an antiques valuation day.

Anthony Price, from Stafford, bought the 100-year-old White Star Line side plate for £22.

But experts from Cuttlestones estimated its worth at £200 to £300 at an auction open day at Sandon Hall.

The estimate meant the plate

has proved to be a bargain buy for the retired civil servant. The 57-year-old said: "I had it valued a few years ago by a dealer so I wasn't that surprised by the price."

"But it was nice to find out more about the plate – the auctioneer said it would have been used in the first-class dining room on ships as a side plate or salad plate. It's quite an interesting find."

The event was the second in a series of free antique and collectable valuations held by the auction firm, which has sale rooms in both Penkridge and Wolverhampton.

Cuttlestones auctioneer and valuer Dave Eglington said: "Public valuation events are always very interesting – you literally never know what's going to come through the door next."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Rock on to help out wildlife centre

A ROCK group will perform in Rugeley to help a wildlife sanctuary.

Covers band Total Recovery are at Lea Hall Club, in Sandy Lane, on May 25, from 7.30pm, to raise funds towards the coatis enclosure at Gentleshaw Wildlife Centre in Eccleshall.

Aztec, Bear and Jersey are of a South American species related to the raccoon, called coati.

Their enclosure needs extending and renovating, to a cost of £7,000.

Total Recovery includes long-term volunteer and charity trustee Colin Heaps. Tickets are £7 from www.gentleshawwildlife.co.uk or The Cutting Edge, in Albion Street, Rugeley.

Remembering days of old school yard

FORMER classmates are to get together again – 40 years since leaving school.

The reunion is for the class of 1978 of Sheffield Comprehensive (Mob Lane). It will be the first time since leaving the school that a reunion has been held. It takes place on June 16 at the Bathouse, Park Road, Rushall, from 7pm.

Partners are welcome and anyone attending is asked to bring any old school photos. Contact Denise Lines on nesie61@gmail.com for further information.

Concert honours old choirmaster

A CHOIR is holding a memorial concert in honour of its former choirmaster.

Former Chase Choral Society musical director Derek Bailey died last year. The concert will take place at Chadsmoor Methodist Church, Cannock Road, on May 19 at 7pm.

It will be conducted by the choir's new musical director George Hardy and will also feature St.Luke's Primary School Choir.

Tickets are available from choir or church members or at the door on the night.

Smart move as car is donated to hospice

A CHILDREN'S hospice has been given a brand new Smart car to take children and young adults out on trips.

It will also be used by the Donna Louise fundraising team.

Mercedes-Benz of Stoke has gifted the car for 12 months, replacing the hospice's current Smart car. It has the charity's logos and branding.

Liz Gratton, director of income generation at The Donna Louise, said: "This is great news for us."

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IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews



New MOT may soon drive up the cost

IS your car due for an MOT soon? You might want to consider very carefully where you take it, following new changes to the test coming into force this month.

The EU Roadworthiness Package – didn't you just know it would come from the EU? – means that from May 20, it will be illegal to drive a car on the road if it has a fault deemed "dangerous" by the MOT inspector.

At face value, this might sound fair enough. After all, who would want to drive a "dangerous" car? And of course, driving an unroadworthy vehicle is an offence regardless of whether it has an MOT or not, so what is the problem?

The problem is who decides what is "dangerous" and what is not. And, of course, it is the inspector who has a vested interest in making sure the repairs are carried out at his garage.

The changes mean an end to booking the car in a month before the certificate expires, and shopping around for the best price for repairs if it fails. And, of course, getting a second opinion if you think the garage is trying it on.

OK, in theory you can arrange to have your car taken away on a trailer if you are not happy with the price given, but that costs a fortune too. And who has got the time to mess about with that?

In future, you had better hope the tester you take your car to is on the level. Because between them, the EU and our government have effectively given cowboy garages carte blanche to impound your car until you have coughed up what they consider a fair price for the repairs.

□ □ □

MORE bleak news for the high street, as House of Fraser reveals it is planning store closures, with Beatties in Wolverhampton potentially at risk.

Is nothing safe? Who would have imagined 20 years ago that there could be a West Midlands without Beatties?

In truth, the chain has been in decline for years, the takeover by House of Fraser a disaster from day one. The decision to rebrand most of its stores, saying the Beatties name "lacked resonance" showed how little the new owners understood the shop or its customers.

The Wolverhampton shop is now the only one to retain this famous old name, and we must all hope that it is not affected.

Retail brands come, retail brands go. But Beatties is a piece of our heritage we can't allow to die.

Sajid Javid has never underplayed his father's old job



Sajid Javid – the new Home Secretary talks of his humble beginnings



Phil Bateman – warns us to lock car doors after some scally opened his rear door



Jurgen Klopp – declares he has this helping syndrome and really cares about people

Is he driving home a certain message?

A LITTLE test for journalists everywhere. Write a short piece about the new Home Secretary Sajid Javid and his humble beginnings without using the words "bus driver." Dammit, that's me out. There are, at the time of writing, no fewer than 26,400 Google results for the search "Sajid Javid" and "bus driver." Javid has never knowingly underplayed his father's old job. Yet back in the 1960s, when most folk considered themselves working class, a bus driver got a decent wage, steady work, union protection and a proper pension. There were many worse starts in life.

HERE'S a prediction for Javid's time at the Home Office. Expect to see the term "illegal immigration" dropped. The kindly "irregular immigration" is taking over. So that boatload of blokes slipping ashore and breaking every migration law in the process, are not really illegal, just a wee bit irregular.

SAINSBURY'S has recalled some of its own-brand cat food because it may contain too much vitamin D, which can be harmful to cats. One of the symptoms of excess vitamin D is lethargy. A reader asks: "How do you diagnose lethargy in a cat?"

IF the EU referendum, the greatest exercise in democracy in British history, had resulted in victory for Remain in 2016, I believe we Brexiters would have quietly thrown in the towel. We may have no desire to be part of the Great European Empire but, hey, that's democracy. But that was two years ago and since then we have seen a

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



sinister, anti-democratic gathering of dark forces hell-bent on wrecking the Brexit process. If they were to win at the final furlong and frustrate the wishes of 17.4 million Brits, can anyone see the anti-EU side gracefully accepting defeat?

TO be the loser in a fair vote is one thing. To be defeated after the vote by a cabal of the rich, powerful and self-important is beyond endurance. Have the plotters really thought it through? Those who are today gleefully hoping to overrule the Referendum may find themselves trying to govern a country which will not only be ungovernable but will become the rallying point for other dissenting EU nations. The EU-zealots don't seem to understand that the best hope of holding the EU together is to let Britain go. If not, dear Brussels, we will be the thorn in your side.

BEING born without a trace of the football gene, I tend to steer well clear of the subject. But my eye was caught by an interview in which the Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp declared: "I have this helping syndrome. I really care about people." Maybe this is normal in his native Germany but somehow I can't imagine an English manager coming out with that sort of self-analysis. It is rare to hear the Brits singing

their own praises which is why such incidents stick in the mind. I recall a lady some time ago who informed me: "As you know, Peter, I am a very spiritual person," and went on to tell me she'd just spent several thousand pounds buying a cherished number plate for her car.

THE more we learn, the more it seems the Windrush scandal was a failing not only of ministers and civil servants but of ordinary MPs. The only justification for having 650 hugely expensive MPs is that they are supposed to be the eyes and ears of Parliament, embedded in their constituencies and on the lookout for grassroots unhappiness and injustice. So where were they? The Windrush saga was brewing for years. If only a few MPs had found out what was happening, discussed it with their colleagues and realised this was a national scandal brewing, who knows how much stress and loss might have been avoided? MPs are paid a basic £76,000. On this showing, how many were worth a penny?

WOLVERHAMPTON councillor Phil Bateman warns us to lock our car doors after some scally opened his rear door at traffic lights. This sounds like an attempted robbery, but you never know. Some years ago, driving through London at night and hopelessly lost in torrential rain, I pulled in to the kerb to consult the map. The door was yanked open and a huge, drenched Rastafarian was suddenly beside me in the passenger seat. He said: "Thank God you stopped for me, man. I'm soaking here." Apparently he'd been thumbing a lift. I drove him home.

TALKING POINT



Now it's time to rebuild our civic pride

SOMEONE once told me that if you walked around Wolverhampton with your eyes raised you realised what a beautiful city it was... and maybe can be again.

OK, beautiful may be pushing it a little but many city centre buildings which at street level have generic branded shop fittings are, when you look up, rather impressive.

Often these are Victorian edifices, reflecting a kind of civic pride that fell out of fashion in the rush to modernism that blighted the 1960s.

Old timers will tell you that Wolverhampton never really recovered from losing its shopping arcades, which remain an asset for London, Birmingham and Manchester.

The demolition of the city's old bus depot revealed the Roman Doric splendour of the Royal Hospital, the work of Wolverhampton architect Edward Banks, opened in 1846 as South Staffordshire General Hospital. Only a philistine would throw something up to block that view again.

It's a shame it has so far been beyond the wit of any developer to find a way to retain Wolverhampton and Midland Counties Eye Infirmary, which has stood in Chapel Ash since 1888.

The work of another Wolverhampton architect, Thomas Henry Fleeming, who also built the imposing Barclays Bank on Queen Square, there is probably no way back from the eye hospital dereliction that has rotted this landmark.

James Morgan's 1820s-built St George's Church suffered great indignity, having a ghastly Sainsbury's store grafted onto its late Georgian elegance. The conversion of a place of worship into a temple of consumerism then seemed an indictment of shallow times.

Times have changed. The convenience and cheapness of shopping on the internet means we now run the risk of seeing town centres filled with boarded-up stores punctuated by coffee shops, burger joints, bookmakers and charity shops.

What will Wolverhampton gain if the shiny new Debenhams store survives but it loses Beatties, the city's flagship department store. Its refined 1920s art deco style still adds a touch of class.

Many of these buildings have some sort of protection but they need to find a role for the 21st century. They must not be lost and they should never be hidden. We should be building with our past and not building over it or covering it up. Time to regain that civic pride.

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Player-turned-vicar blesses new group



Former Walsall FC footballer Peter Hart, front, with other supporters of the Disabled Supporters Association

A FOOTBALLER turned vicar has given his blessing to a disabled supporters group.

Peter Hart played for Walsall between 1980 and 1990, making nearly 400 appearances for the club.

However, after finding faith in 1963 he attended theology college in 1990 when he hung up his boots, before being ordained as a minister of the Church of England and becoming vicar of St Luke's church in Cannock.

His football career proved to be a highlight of a question and answer session with Walsall's newly formed Disabled Supporters Association (DSA). "It was a very good night and very positive," said Peter. "There were questions about my time at Walsall."

The event was attended by 30 supporters, and a raffle raised more than £100 for the group. Peter added: "It's only just started but they have made very positive strides in a short space of

time. People ought to keep their eyes open for the ways they might be able to support the Disabled Supporters Association."

Peter, who is based at St John the Baptist parish church in Armitage, says there are plenty of similarities between football and his current role.

"I'm an encourager, it calls for commitment and understanding - all those kinds of qualities that people don't realise are part of football," he said.

Team celebrate course success



Tom Nash

YOUNG people have celebrated completing the Prince's Trust Team programme.

A team of 13 participants in Cannock gathered at Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service headquarters with their families, friends, as well as their local work placement providers to celebrate the achievement.

The group of youngsters enrolled in the programme, which is a 12-week personal develop-

ment course for 16 to 25-year-olds, with Safer Communities CIC.

For their project they renovated West Chadsmoor Family Centre.

Tom Nash, aged 20, from Cannock, said: "Being on the team has helped build my confidence and self-esteem."

"The work placement made me realise my career potential and how valuable I can be as

an employee." It is the second programme to be run for the area, while 13 young people completed the Stafford Team 11 programme.

The Cannock team programme has been funded by the European Social Fund and the National Lottery, through the Big Lottery Fund.

It encourages youngsters to take on a group community project and develop their skills.

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Car in the way? It might have broken down

I WOULD like to thank Pelsall Social Club, at The Fingerpost, for their hospitality.

My car, a black Peugeot estate, broke down outside the club, near to the traffic lights. I managed to get the car half off the road and put my hazards on and waited for the relay to arrive.

A car sounded his horn, to point out I was 'blocking' the exit.

Luckily the lights were on red so I

approached his car and informed him I had broken down. A second motorist, a woman in a 4x4, sounded her horn and shouted 'You are blocking the exit'.

I told her I had broken down, to which she shouted 'Put your hazards on'. My hazards were on and I am afraid I retaliated as I was quite fraught. My car was overlapping by about a foot, so what her problem was, heaven knows. Throughout all this,

dozens of cars passed me without any problem. Thank you to the club, who made me a cup of tea, for their hospitality and let me wait inside.

So, motorists, if you see a car half on the pavement, hazards on, it's quite possible they have broken down, so don't be like those two impatient idiots, please try to understand.

CAROL ROBERTS
Great Wyrley

Hard work pledge on the issues that matter

CANNOCK Chase Conservative Association would like to thank all people who took the time to vote in last Thursday's district election, regardless of who they supported.

We were pleased to see that five Conservative Councillors were elected. Although Labour still has overall control of the district council, the three gains we made means their overall majority has now been reduced to just one seat. We would wish to congratulate all candidates of whatever party on their success in being elected to the council chamber.

All members of Cannock Chase Conservative Association will continue to work hard in representing the views of local people and delivering on issues that matter the most.

BRYAN JONES, COUNTY COUNCILLOR
Hednesford & Rawsley

Royal wedding

A LETTER last week about the forthcoming royal wedding should, of course, have referred to Prince Harry and not his brother William. Many thanks to the readers who pointed out the error.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST
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Quest to find more about tragic soldiers

AS it's 100 years since the end of the Great War, a couple of weeks ago I decided to trace and visit my grandfather's military grave.

After research via the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, I travelled to a village near Armentières, northern France, to the Ration Farm cemetery.

My grandfather, Samuel Martin, lived in Wolverhampton; he died on January 25, 1916. Next to his grave are two other soldiers from the South Staffs Regiment, a Private Agger and Private E Fellows.

I have tried to find out more about them without success. If anyone has information or would like a photo of the grave, contact me via keithmorgan40@hotmail.co.uk

KEITH MORGAN
Stafford

Always available to deal with any issues

MAY I take this opportunity to thank everyone one that supported me in the recent local elections. It is a privilege to be given the chance to represent the people of Cannock North Ward for another four years.

I can assure everyone concerned that I am available as always to deal with any problems that constituents might encounter. Many thanks for your continued support.

FRANK ALLEN
Cannock

Privilege to represent area

THANK you to everyone across Rawsley, Hazel Slade, Prospect Village and Cannock Wood for your support and I look forward to serving you as a Green Party councillor. Representing the area in which I grew up is a real privilege and I will continue working hard for you and our area.

CLAIRE WILKINSON
Rawsley ward

Pleasure to serve ward again

I WOULD like to thank all the people who voted for me in the Cannock South Ward on May 3. It has been a pleasure to represent you all as your local district councillor over the past four years, and I look forward to doing the same over the next four years.

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AGM ends with game of beetle

Shareshill WI

IN the absence of president Margaret Beppard, who was on holiday with her family, Sue Davidson welcomed members to the April cheese and wine evening and AGM.

Since the last meeting the quiz team has taken part in the county quiz; a very enjoyable and successful fashion show was held; some members had attended a homes and gardens event and 17 members joined in with the Heathside group visit to the Black Country Museum to celebrate the 'Voices of Women in the Great War and its aftermath.'

The next meeting will be on Thursday May 17 when Albrighton Potters will tell of their passion for pottery.

Sue opened the AGM and on behalf of the president, thanked all the committee members for their commitment, hard work and support throughout the year. All including the president are willing to stand for re-election. Marion McCarthy was also elected to the committee.

John Parton was appointed financial adviser and treasurer Ann Shutt's comprehensive and detailed report showed finances to be healthy. The secretary's report reminded everyone of all the many activities over a busy year. Thanks were given to all who had given such help and support.

After a lovely buffet prepared by Ann, members had a lively competitive game of beetle.

On road towards eradicating polio



Assistant Governor and Past President David Marklew and President Elect David Gardiner

ROTARY Club members are taking part in the Purple4Polio Rotary Grand Tour and are hitting the highways in May.

Clubs from across the country are entering teams to join this exciting and inspiring road trip from May 21-24, visiting as many of the Rotary check points and photo stops as is safely possible, raising money and awareness for the End Polio Now campaign.

For more than 30 years, Rotary has been working hard to rid the world of polio, which has no cure, meaning immunisation programmes are essential to prevent children from contracting this disease.

Until polio is eradicated, children everywhere are at risk. It costs just 20p to immunise a child, plus with the 2-to-1 donation matching scheme from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, every £1 raised will become £3, meaning 15 children can be protected for life.

Rotary Club of Cannock

Rotary are 99.9 per cent there but need to continue the fight towards eradicating the disease. In the past 10 years the Rotary Club of Cannock has raised some £10,000 towards 'End Polio Now' campaign. To donate visit either their 'Just Giving' page or www.cannockrotary.co.uk

Magic time at annual lunch

LICHFIELD Town Crier Ken Knowles was the MC for the City of Lichfield Probus annual charity lunch at St Matthews Sports and Social Club in Burntwood.

Guest of honour was The Mayor of Lichfield, Mrs Janice Greaves. Entertainment

City of Lichfield Probus

was provided by Doctor Bob the Magician who baffled all as he performed his table tricks while the lunch provided by Rob and his team was enjoyed. Dr Bob also

gave a cabaret performance with a variety of illusions.

A cheque for £1,000 was presented by chairman Ken Marshall to Carol Pratt, representing Acorns Hospice. A vote of thanks was given to Peter Hitchman for organising the enjoyable afternoon.

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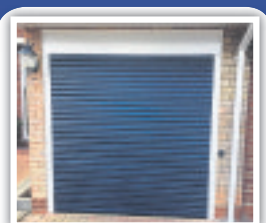
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'Foodie' fit and healthy after losing 10 stones

A CHESLYN HAY woman has transformed her life and tackled her health problems after losing nearly half her body weight.

Karen Green was a practising nurse weighing 23-and-a-half stone when she recognised the symptoms of Type 2 Diabetes, giving her the motivation to change her lifestyle, in October 2015.

"I thought 'Get your life sorted, Karen,'" she said. The 53-year-old, who describes herself as a foodie, enjoyed home baking and cooking from scratch – as well as wine.

"I would come in after a busy shift and enjoy a glass of wine or two... or four," she said. "I'm a good cook and I enjoyed rich foods with butter and cream. I over-indulged in carbs."

Dramatic

However, now working as an adult nursing lecturer at Wolverhampton University, she has swapped unhealthy foods for fresh fruits and vegetables, as well as lean protein.

Consequently, mother-of-two Karen has lost 10st in weight and dropped from a size 30 to a size 14. Better still, after her dramatic weight loss, she is no longer diabetic and has come off nearly all her medication.

Karen said: "I feel really proud. People are really pleased for me."

"I'm really grateful for the support of everyone along the way."

Karen's weight loss even inspired her to take on the challenge of a 5k run with colleagues as part of a New Year's resolution.

Fittingly, she completed the course during Diabetes Prevention week.

The run, along with a coffee morning, has raised more than £4,000 for The Stroke Association.



Really proud – Karen Green dropped from a size 30 to a size 14

Healthier attitude campaign

A HEALTHIER attitude to death and dying is being promoted by 40 different organisations from across Staffordshire as part of an awareness campaign.

Groups from nurseries to crematoria are coming together for Dying Matters Awareness Week – May 14 to 20 – which will see more than 50 events staged throughout the region.

The annual awareness week aims to

end the stigma surrounding death and help people talk openly about what they want to happen when they die.

Dr Steve Fawcett, medical director for the Clinical Commissioning Groups, said: "As a GP, I often see relatives who find it difficult to cope with bereavement because they hadn't discussed the wishes of someone they cared for and are left to try to make difficult choices."



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Conference hears of fire plans

A STAFFORDSHIRE Fire and Rescue Service engineer spoke at a national conference and was invited to sit on a specialist panel.

Fire protection manager Stuart Ruckledge attended the Safe for Life conference in London, hosted by Project Fire. He talked about the project and how SFRS aims to get sprinkler systems in all high and mid rise buildings in the county by 2026.

He was also a member of the professional panel, answering questions on ways to keep people safe.

Mr Ruckledge said: "The event is aimed at increasing the awareness of the impact that fire has to lives, property and business and lobbying for legislation to be changed to require sprinklers to be installed in all new build residential properties."

MP calls for future of Beatties to be secured

DEFENCE Secretary Gavin Williamson has criticised House of Fraser for failing to invest in Beatties as he urged bosses to safeguard the future of the under threat Wolverhampton store.

The iconic store is hanging in the balance after the Chinese owner of House of Fraser – which has owned Beatties since 2005 – announced it will close stores this year as part of a restructure.

South Staffordshire MP Mr Williamson said under-investment by House of Fraser represented a 'missed opportunity' for the department store chain, especially when it comes to Wolverhampton's Beatties.

He says he has written to bosses asking for reassurances over their commitment to Beatties, and also how



Wolverhampton's Beatties store they plan to make the business thrive in future.

Mr Williamson, who is the Government's Defence Secretary, said: "Not only is Beatties such a landmark store, but it is also an important economic

draw for the city of Wolverhampton. This is more than just a shop it is the beating heart of the city centre and I will be writing to the chief executive asking for reassurances that the store is going to be continuing."

"Actually what we should be looking at is how House of Fraser can start investing in the store and investing in the future of Wolverhampton."

Committed

"It has got such amazing potential, but the real tragedy is that House of Fraser hasn't been as committed in terms of investment in the store, which means the place has not received the same levels of investment as it did when it was a very proud independent store."

"House of Fraser needs to show commitment to Beatties first and foremost, and then start looking at looking at how they can take this amazing building and amazing brand forward."

Unveiling of RAF memorial



The roebuck unveiled at the National Memorial Arboretum

A SCULPTURE created to commemorate RAF servicemen has been unveiled in Staffordshire.

The roebuck was designed and built out of metal rods by Alfie Bradley to mark the 100th year anniversary of the Royal Air Force.

It was unveiled at the National Memorial Arboretum, and a ceremony was attended by former servicemen and their families.

Mr Bradley, who created the Knife Angel structure, currently at the British Ironworks Centre, could not attend, but said he was honoured to have been asked to create the memorial.

"It is such a big honour to be asked to create something like this, and I am hoping to get down to see it in place soon," he said.

Mr Bradley, of Morda, near Oswestry, has been asked to create a piece for a museum in Portsmouth, commemorating soldiers who fought in the D-Day landings.



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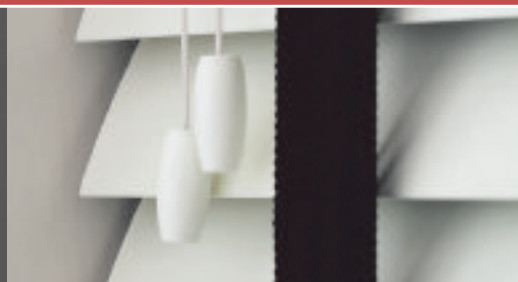
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Owners join Big Dog Jog tribute to Darren



From left, walkers and their dogs – Nic Smart with Marco (just out of shot), Karen Bloor with George, Pc Richard Birkin with Echo, Heather Bennett with Seamus and David Punter with Alfred

DOZENS of dog walkers tackled courses with their pets to raise money for charity.

Eighty animal lovers took on 5km or 10km courses at Chasewater to raise cash for the Staffordshire Retired Police Dogs Fund. The event was held in memory of Darren Aird, a former Staffordshire Police dog handler and owner of retired police hound Maxwell who also took part in the Big Dog Jog.

Hayley Birkin, chairman of the fund, said: "It went really well – we had a lot of support from people. Everyone seemed to enjoy it and have a good time. In total we

had 130 people who registered but not all of those took part. People did it at different times to suit them.

"This year it was held in memory of Darren, who was a Staffordshire Police officer and dog handler who died last year,

"He always used to take part, so we thought it would be fitting to hold the event in his memory. His last working dog Maxwell – an 11-year-old German shepherd – also took part in the walk."

Staffordshire Retired Police Dog Fund is run by volunteers and is independent of Staffordshire Police. It holds events to raise awareness of the retired dogs and money to ensure a long and happy retirement.



Darren Aird

Broome Meadow Bakes

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Parrot book looks set to become fly-away success

AN illustrator turned author has created an educational picture book for toddlers.

Soeli Thomas, from Cheslyn Hay, has independently put together a story called Charlie the Parrot: Adventures in the Jungle.

The story follows a mischievous parrot who escapes for six days into the wild. It is based on a true event in Soeli's childhood, when her brother Christopher's parrot escaped – for six days.

"It came about by thinking what he got up to," Soeli, aged 44, said.

The mother-of-one added: "It's the first thing I have done on my own from start to finish – it feels good."

"It's a sense of achievement creating a book, and when children like it, it means more."

Soeli has previously designed books but never written the words.

Reaction

Work on the story began five years ago, but due to Soeli's work commitments it was put on hold until recently. However, now a full-time parent to her two-year-old daughter Mollie, Soeli found the time to finish the project.

"The reaction has been really good, I'm getting great feedback from people," she said. "They are loving it. I'm really chuffed about that."

"I feel a bit overwhelmed at the moment, it's a whole new world to me."

The story has been designed with bright, bold illustrations and features a host of jungle animals to help toddlers learn the different sounds each creature makes. The book is available for £3.99 plus £1.01 postage at www.soeli.co.uk/starbuy.

It can also be purchased from Hoo Farm – the place where the real Christopher now lives.



Soeli Thomas – 'it's the first thing I have done on my own from start to finish'

Line of Duty 5 'taking shape'

POPULAR crime drama Line of Duty is back on the beat, its Staffordshire-born writer has revealed.

Jed Mercurio, who grew up in Cannock, made a quick trip to Ireland as he prepared to get the cameras rolling for the fifth series of the show.

The BBC police drama, which saw 7.5 million viewers tune in to the final episode of the fourth series last year, has been lined up for a further two series.

Tweeting on Thursday, Mercurio

said: "A flying visit to Belfast as the earliest stages of Line of Duty Series 5 take shape."

Mercurio trained in medicine at Birmingham University and enlisted as a pilot at RAF Cosford.

He also worked as a junior doctor at Wolverhampton's New Cross Hospital and drew on his experiences to write Cardiac Arrest, under the pseudonym John MacUre.

Series five of Line of Duty is expected to hit TV screens next year.

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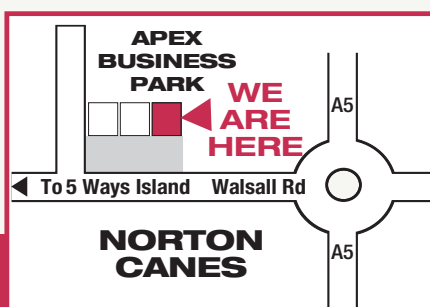
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14 Show will explore star's musical life

IT is one of the best kept secrets in show business that Dame Patricia Routledge – best known for her TV creations, not least Hyacinth Bucket in Keeping Up Appearances – trained not only as an actress but also as a singer and had considerable success in musical theatre on both sides of the Atlantic.



Patricia Routledge on stage with Edward Seckerson

Patricia Routledge: Facing the Music – A Life in Musical Theatre will be at the Lichfield Garrick on Sunday, May 27 at 2.30pm.

In what has been described as a ‘fascinating encounter’ with the writer and broadcaster Edward Seckerson, Routledge recalls this special part of her career with access to rare and treasured recordings. Edward Seckerson’s diligent discovery of her musical life is set to make for an enthralling afternoon of entertainment. Tickets can be booked on 01543 412121 or at www.lichfieldgarrick.com

More than half of smokers admit buying fake cigarettes

MORE than half of smokers in Staffordshire admit they have bought fake cigarettes despite warnings that some could contain asbestos, mould and rat droppings.

According to a survey of 450 smokers in the county, 55 per cent said they had bought fake cigarettes.

It found that almost 60 per cent of smokers in Staffordshire had been offered illegal tobacco in the last 12 months and that most had not, or would not, report it.

Some 43 per cent had bought cigarettes with foreign language health warnings on the pack.

The investigation, by Japan To-

bacco International (JTI), compares the £3.50 typical price of a packet of illegal cigarettes with about £8 for the genuine product, while a 50g pack of illegal roll-your-own tobacco is either £4 or £4.50, as opposed to £21 for the real thing.

Raids

More than a quarter of a million counterfeit cigarettes and 56kg of tobacco with a street value of around £150,000 was seized in Staffordshire in 2016-17 by the county council’s trading standards team.

In one of the latest raids, in December, a shop in Rugeley was among three in Staffordshire targeted as part of an intelligence-led operation. In total, 33,000 illicit cigarettes, more than 8kg of tobacco,

13 litres of suspected non-duty paid vodka and around £1,000 cash was discovered.

The concerns outlined in the survey findings have been shared by Staffordshire County Council’s communities leader Councillor Gill Heath, who said: “In Staffordshire we have an ongoing operation to stamp out the sale of illicit tobacco and we have had some notable successes across the county. While all tobacco seriously damages people’s health, illicit tobacco can undermine smoking cessation efforts as it is usually sold at a much cheaper price.

“Illicit tobacco creates a cheap and sometime more easily obtainable source for children and young people and this is why our operation to stop its sale is so important.”

Campaigns target young riders’ safety

YOUNG bikers are being targeted in a series of campaigns to help promote safer riding on the roads.

Riders aged 16 to 21 are being offered a £50 voucher off the cost of their Compulsory Basic Training (CBT) course which allows them to legally ride. To receive the voucher, they must attend a two-hour Pre-CBT workshop which offers advice on safer riding, rules of the road and an overview of the Highway Code.

The campaigns are being co-ordinated by the Staffordshire Safer Roads Partnership.

The first two workshops will be held at Cannock fire station on June 1 from 6.30pm to 9pm and Burton fire station on June 8 from 6.30pm to 9pm. Places are limited and young people need to book their place by emailing bikers@staffordshire.gov.uk or by contacting Kevin Wilcox on 07855 336922.



The campaigns are designed to help promote safer riding

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- Visit to the English Wine Centre

5 Days	Monday 11th June 2018	£249.00
5 Days	Monday 3rd September 2018	£249.00
5 Days	Monday 29th October 2018	£220.00
4 Days	Friday 7th December 2018*	£179.00

(Turkey & Tinsel) *1 excursion only on this date to Worthing.

● ISLE OF WIGHT Sandown

- Coach Travel
- 4/6 Nights Bed, Breakfast & Evening Meal at the Trouville Hotel, Sandown
- Visit to Rosemary's Vineyard
- Visit to Ryde
- Island Tour

7 Days	Saturday 21st July 2018	£459.00
5 Days	Monday 22nd October 2018	£279.00

● LLANDUDNO

- Coach Travel
- 4 Nights Bed, Breakfast & Evening Meal
- Visit to Caernarfon & Beaumaris
- Visit to Bangor

5 Days	Monday 4th June 2018	£239.00
5 Days	Monday 20th August 2018	£259.00
5 Days	Monday 24th September 2018	£249.00
5 Days	Monday 5th November 2018	£199.00

(Turkey & Tinsel)

● ISLE OF WIGHT Shanklin

- Coach Travel
- 4 Nights Bed, Breakfast & Evening Meal at the Langham Court Hotel
- Visit to Newport
- Island Tour

5 Days	Monday 21st May 2018	£199.00
5 Days	Monday 27th August 2018	£229.00
5 Days	Monday 24th September 2018	£199.00

● TORQUAY

- Coach Travel
- 4 Nights Bed, Breakfast & Evening Meal at the Riviera Hotel
- Visit to Exeter & Teignmouth
- Visit to Donkey Sanctuary & Sidmouth

5 Days	Monday 10th September 2018	£220.00
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● WEYMOUTH

- Coach Travel
- 4/7 Nights Bed, Breakfast & Evening Meal at the Berkley Hotel
- Visit to Poole
- Visit to Dorchester
- Visit to Portland Bill

5 Days	Monday 11th June 2018	£249.00
7 Days	Sat 28th July	£399.00

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Thursday 24th	Gloucester Quays	£22.00
Saturday 26th	York City	£23.00
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Staffie joins Staffs police force



Pcs Ruth Jones, Rob Mountford and Tim Moss with Barry, Archie and Cooper

THE county's police force has welcomed its first Staffordshire bull terrier – two months after he was in an animal rescue centre.

Cooper joined fellow police dogs Archie and Barry on an intensive six-week course with Staffordshire Police, and all graduated with flying colours.

PD Cooper became the force's first ever Staffordshire Bull Terrier when he joined in March after

leaving the RSPCA West Hatch animal centre. He was selected for police use by Avon & Somerset dog trainer Lee Webb, who said: "Staffordshire Police are leading the way in showing there's more to this breed as Staffies seem to get an unfair reputation."

Handler Pc Tim Moss said: "Cooper and I would like to congratulate Pc Ruth Jones with PD Barry and Pc Rob Mountford with PD Archie."

New funding to help tackle the causes of air pollution

A NEW project to improve air quality is set to benefit residents in Staffordshire.

Staffordshire County Council and Stoke-on-Trent City Council will share £208,000 funding as part of government plans to tackle air pollution.

Campaigns to highlight the benefits of clean air, tackling anti-idling in vehicles and encouraging people to consider greener and active modes of travel are among the ideas being put forward.

Staffordshire areas in the scheme include Cannock, Heath Hayes, and Wall Island to Alrewas.

School areas include Wedges Mills, Leek, and Cheadle.

Councillor Alan White, deputy leader and cabinet member for health, care and wellbeing at Staffordshire County Council, welcomed the funding.

"We know that air pollution, especially from vehicles on some of our most congested main roads, can cause many health issues, and it's important we do what we can to improve air quality for everyone," he said.

Expertise

"This funding is very welcome and will not only allow us to run some practical campaigns with local communities, schools and businesses but will also allow us to explore other longer-term solutions to the issue."

"We'll also be bringing together expertise from our own public health teams and highways department and will be working closely with district and borough councils."

Environment Minister Thérèse Coffey said: "Improving air quality is about more than just tackling emissions from transport, so later this year we will publish a comprehensive Clean Air Strategy."

"This will set out how we will address all forms of air pollution, delivering cleaner air for the whole country."

Singer-songwriter in concert



Donna Taggart – fame

IRISH singer-songwriter Donna Taggart will be performing in Cannock in June as part of a UK tour.

Blessed with a 'distinctively sensitive yet powerful voice', she has enjoyed a meteoric rise to international fame and is now one of Ireland's most prolific international stars.

She will be at the Prince of Wales Centre on June 13 and to coincide with her tour she will be releasing a double A-side single, featuring her smash hit 'Jealous of Angels', which went viral on social media. In one

week the song reached 25 million hits online, propelling her to No 42 in the US iTunes charts, No 1 in the iTunes easy listening charts in eight different countries and No 1 in the US Billboard World Album Catalogue.

Completing the double A-side is 'Guiding Light', which was written by Northern Irish singer-songwriter Foy Vance and featured Ed Sheeran on the original release.

To book tickets for the Cannock show, visit https://boxoffice.wlct.org/select_seats.aspx?perfid=1158

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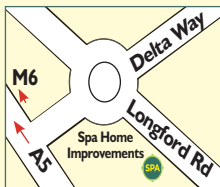
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It's back — and with 100 different brands on offer

Commercial feature

VENETIA SANDERS first worked with Fashion Factory at its Vine Lane site.

Believing it should stay in the town she searched for 18 months for a site, and after convincing the council that the people of Cannock would support Fashion Factory on Hollies Park, planning permission was granted.

Fashion Factory is working alongside Cash 4 Clothes, within the same building but in two separate units.

Venetia believes Fashion Factory will stand the test of time due to its loyal following of customers. She began her career at the age of 14 on market stalls and has evolved into a successful retailer although not forgetting her roots, you'll often see her on the shopfloor.

Lucky

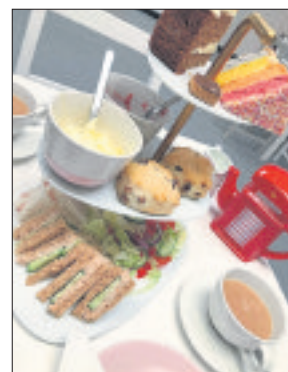
And she sees the addition of Pavers Shoes as a bonus. "We are so lucky to be able to welcome Pavers Shoes back to Cannock. They offer a great range of styles and sizes.

"We've had an amazing reception to the new location and hope we are successful for many years to come. Thank you to all of our customers old and new".

Also joining Fashion Factory are suit and formalwear company Skopes Menswear, a gift department courtesy of Woods Gifts and Penny Blacks Tea Room. There are 100 brands on offer including Klass, Lambretta, Tigi, Lily Originals. Offering all stock at up to 70 per cent off RRP there are plenty of bargains in store.



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Historic brewery is put up for sale



The brewery was launched in 1898 by James Fletcher to produce the famous Highgate Dark Mild

THE HISTORIC Highgate Brewery has been put up for sale for almost £1 million – raising hopes that the site could finally be brought back into use.

The Grade II listed landmark in Walsall is being advertised for sale with a guide price of £975,000. The derelict premises have previously failed to sell at auction, leading to concerns that the site could be a target for arsonists.

The Sandymount Road brewery was launched in 1898 by James Fletcher to produce the famous Black Country brew Highgate Dark Mild aimed at workers in the town's leather industry. At its peak it employed 65 people and was producing 100,000 barrels a year. Its beer went to more than 400 pubs and clubs across the West Midlands.

But it closed in June 2010, with the loss of 22 jobs, and failed to sell at auction two years later. It went under the hammer again in 2014 with a guide price of £850,000.

Walsall Council produced a report three years ago saying that the site faced being turned into a housing development if no businesses took over.

Donations of food help out families across area

MORE than 3,900 food items and supplies were dished out by the Midcounties Co-operative in Cannock Chase and South Staffordshire villages in the last year – enough to feed nearly 100 families for three days.

Midcounties Co-operative Food store colleagues and shoppers clubbed together to donate the items.

According to food bank network The Trussell Trust, one in five of the UK population lives below the poverty line and demand for food parcels has risen for the ninth year in a row. The Trussell Trust reportedly gave out a record 1.2m food parcels to families and individuals in need in 2016-17.

Tinned

The donations form part of The Midcounties Co-operative's Regional Communities strategy.

Toilet rolls, tea and coffee, toothpaste, washing powder, shampoo, tinned potatoes, orange juice, jam and can openers are among the most helpful things that can be donated to the local food bank.

By David Banner

Louise Winter, leadership team ambassador at The Midcounties Co-operative in South Staffordshire, said: "It is so important to contribute to foodbanks as unfortunately they are being used more and more.

"We're happy to have been able to help our members and customers donate and want to say a big thank you to them for giving so generously."

Samantha Stapley, Head of Operations for England at The Trussell Trust, said: "No one should go hungry and we're working hard to address the reasons why people need foodbanks in the long term."

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"KINGSMEAD is like a sleeping giant and the leadership team and I want to wake it up".

Those are the words of determined headteacher Maria Mincher who took over the reins of the Hednesford school at the start of the academic year.

Since September she has improved standards of 'academic rigour, uniform and behaviour', and has been praised by Ofsted for bringing 'energy and ambition' to Kingsmead.

Although the school was rated as 'requires improvement' overall, many areas were considered 'good' by the inspectors, who also noted the rapid improvements already made in a short amount of time.

Now Mrs Mincher and her team are working to keep turning around Kingsmead's fortunes with the support of both pupils and parents.

"Kingsmead really is an incredible school," she said. "There is a massive family feel that permeates through the whole school and the staff are the most caring I have ever met. When I started, the school was in a time warp and hadn't moved with the times. The 'good' wasn't showing through in the day-to-day work in the classroom."

"It was clear to me the areas I needed to improve. This included ensuring the children were challenged in the classroom and raising the levels of academic excellence."

"The staff have really embraced this and are hungry for change. We are checking on a daily basis the progress of every pupil so we know exactly where they are so they can continue to



New Kingsmead headteacher Maria Mincher with students, left, Frankie Cooper, Alfie McCormick and Alyssa Spindler

be challenged in the classroom," said Mrs Mincher, who was previously vice-principal at Ormiston Forge Academy.

Changes made so far include the recruitment of extra teaching staff for mathematics, science, computer science, PE and languages. The school has also introduced the Duke of Edinburgh scheme which has seen 42 pupils in Year 9 take up the challenge and set up a PTA and a Parents Forum to help improve communication.

It is also creating an enterprise village which will give the children the opportunity to learn business and entrepreneurial skills by running

their own stalls. Improvements are also being made in the languages department including the creation of a interactive language village.

From September, there will be a ban on mobile phones during the school day. "Mobile phones have a negative impact on behaviour and academic success," Mrs Mincher said.

Projects in the pipeline include a 'writing and reading camp' for Year 7s and a homework app. There will also be a 'maths in action' project which will see the pupils running their own reverse auctions, making savings and real-life use of maths a reality to them.

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Thousands salute Wolves heroes on golden day

THIRTY thousand fans packed out a city park to celebrate Wolves' promotion to the Premier League.

Flags were waved and flares let off as the supporters converged on West Park to salute the Championship title-winning heroes. It followed an open-top bus parade through the city centre, witnessed by around 80,000 people.

Fans lapped up the atmosphere, with one, trainee engineer Danny Cockeram, from Rugeley, saying he had his sights set on Premier League success next season.

The 27-year-old said: "It has been a brilliant, amazing day. My bet for next season is saying top two at 500/1.

"If we keep the owners and players we will be up there for years to come."

Fellow fan Scott Robinson, 37, a mechanic from Dudley, said: "It's like a dream – it's every Wolves fan's dream."

Brilliant

Derek and Susan Hubbard from Wilenhall, who have been season ticket holders in the Steve Bull Stand for 25 years, also had a spot in the park. They paid tribute to the 'exceptional' efforts of Nuno and his players. Derek said: "It's absolutely brilliant. The best season we can remember."

"Nuno is brilliant. I think it's exceptional what he's done in such a short space of time."

"If we can keep the players we have we will hold our own."

Players and club staff – including chairman Jeff Shi – took to the stage to talk to fans and show off the silverware. Wolverhampton-born singer Beverley Knight helped to whip up a frenzy with her set while Wolves fan



Fans toast their heroes in West Park



Reef frontman Gary Stringer performs



Nuno and players celebrate with the Championship trophy on stage
and Reef frontman Gary Stringer, who hails from Buntwood, also took to the stage.

Tito Jackson – the brother of Michael – returned to the city to join in the party. He has become a Wolves fan on recent visits to the city and even dedicated one of his songs We Made It to the club and its fans.

Warehouse worker Ant Lunn, 37, from Dudley said: "It's brilliant. What Nuno's done is amazing."

Rob Carr, 59, a Wolves fan for 40 years, said: "This is the best season I've ever seen at Wolves."

Power press setter Dave Roberts, 62, from Wednesfield, said: "This has been fantastic."

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Canal trust's bid to strengthen bridge

A BRIDGE in Stafford is to be strengthened due to fears its condition could pose a safety risk.

Work will be carried out on the St Thomas Bridge, which runs over the canal in Baswich Lane.

An application has been lodged by the Canal and River Trust to make the changes needed to ensure the listed bridge can continue to carry traffic. Its condition has worsened over recent years and an inspection of the bridge has confirmed strengthening work is needed.

The Canal and River Trust said the work to the bridge was particularly important as it connects a busy commuter route which avoids the centre of Stafford.

The trust said the work would extend the life of the bridge by another 200 years.

The application to make changes to the bridge has been lodged with Stafford Borough Council.

New initiative strives to tackle health inequalities

HEALTH inequality across Staffordshire has been exposed in a special report.

The study looks at profiles published by Public Health England for each district across the county.

They show a sharp contrast in the health of residents living in Cannock Chase and Stafford.

In Cannock, 46 per cent of adults are active, compared to 66 per cent in Stafford. Seven per cent of people

in Cannock have diabetes, compared to six per cent in Stafford. However, in the county town, 14 people out of 100,000 commit suicide. In Cannock, the number of cases are so small the ratio cannot be calculated.

According to the study, the number of children attaining five GCSEs including English and maths in Cannock Chase is below average, with 46 per cent reaching the standard.

Now, a targeted health project offering support with diets, physical activity and smoking is being

launched to combat the inequality. The Health Communities Service will target 10 areas in Cannock Chase, as well as four in Lichfield.

Alan White, the county council's deputy leader, said it was key people maintained a healthy lifestyle.

"We are launching a new Healthy Communities Service by offering advice on diet, increasing physical activity and stopping smoking," he said.

"This includes 10 areas in Cannock Chase and four in Lichfield."

Digital skills event to help job search

A ONE-OFF digital skills event for adults and children is to be held in Staffordshire this month.

Suitable for teachers, students, apprentices, civil servants and business owners, the event is designed to provide basic digital skills, fire young people's imaginations, or show businesses how 'the cloud' can help them.

Chris Perkins, public sector general manager and Microsoft's executive sponsor for Digital Skills, said: "We're delighted to be hosting our first Microsoft UK Digital Skills Live event in Staffordshire."

"Through our Digital Skills Programme we're committed to helping everyone in the UK take a step up in their digital skills and prepare for the jobs of the future."

Find out more about the event, which is being held at Stafford's Shire Hall on May 24, by visiting <https://www.microsoftevents.com>

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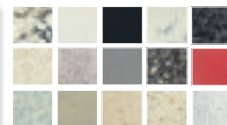
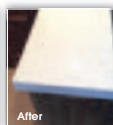
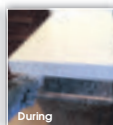
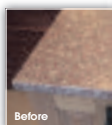
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New American leader for Rugeley Amazon

AMAZON'S giant fulfilment centre in Rugeley has grown to become one of the biggest employers in the area since it first opened its doors in 2011, writes John Corser.

The massive warehouse and sorting complex at Towers Business Park in the shadow of the town's old power station towers operates on a 22/7 basis through the week.

The Rugeley operation, which has 1,800 full-time employees, is now being led by American general manager Nathan Fetherston.

Mr Fetherston, originally from Las Vegas, has recently moved to Rugeley from Amazon's base in Coalville, Leicestershire, and is keen to make the operation even more efficient.

"We are continually looking for opportunities to improve," said Mr Fetherston, who is impressed with the workforce he has taken over.

Worked

"The team here is absolutely fantastic, with great ideas to help us improve and make things better. Our ethos is to deliver smiles to people and they are really passionate about that."

Mr Fetherston, who joined Amazon a decade ago, has worked in the UK for nearly three years.

Over the last three years Amazon's number of fulfilment centres has grown from eight to 16 across the UK.

Rugeley at 750,000 sq ft – the equivalent of 10 football pitches – is one of the biggest and houses 250 million different products. Mr Fetherston says that it enjoys a great geographical position right in the centre of the country. "We are continually improving and evolving things as business opportunities come along," he added.



Nathan Fetherston in the Rugeley centre – 'the team is absolutely fantastic'

The centre's 'pick' towers are made up of four floors where pickers, each equipped with a scanner locate orders, delivered by lorry, that have been put in place by storers.

As well as Amazon's own products the fulfilment centre also stores and despatches orders from businesses that outsource the job to the company. Within the centre, there are 10 miles of conveyer belts that are utilised in

the sophisticated and rapid system to ensure the exact orders are packed and sent out to customers.

It operates an open door policy with departments operating without offices to separate them from the workforce. The fulfilment centre hits its peak around the autumn and will once again this year be recruiting temporary seasonal staff to cope with the build-up to Christmas.

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FOCUS ON BURNTWOOD

Company looks to build with expansion

A LEADING family-owned building company has announced plans for expansion and investment.

Cameron Homes, which has its head office in Chasetown, is celebrating its 25th anniversary, and is set to increase total turnover to £90 million this year, together with sister Shropshire firm company Galliers Home.

More than 100 members of staff from both businesses gathered at Weston Park for their annual conference to hear the plans for growth.

Progress

Managing director Ian Burns said progress had been exceptional over the last 12 months, with around 40 jobs being created and 'five star' status being achieved from the Home Builders Federation. He added this was set to continue throughout this year.

"Our operating area is widening, with new regions being created," he said. "We

By John Corser

have also recently acquired new premises in Chasetown to accommodate more staff.

"It is a tribute to our people that we have managed this dynamic growth at a time when there is a skills shortage in the industry."

He said as well as the companies completing 330 properties in 2018, there would be major investment in training and infrastructure.

"The future is looking very bright for both Cameron and Galliers," he said.

Teacher runs up funds for charity



Teacher Jacqueline Bradbury and pupils at Chase Terrace Primary School give a thumbs-up

A BURNTWOOD teacher raised £4,500 for a charity supporting young people battling cancer.

Jacqueline Bradbury, from Chase Terrace Primary, smashed her £2,000 target by organising a sponsored run for students and by running the London Marathon herself.

The charity she has raised the money for – CLIC Sargent – provides specialist support for children, young people and their families. "I feel totally overwhelmed with the support from the parents and children at Chase Terrace," she said.

"Thanks to our fantastic children, I have smashed my target raising a total of £4,500 so far. Thank you so much."

Donations can still be made by visiting www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jac-queline-bradbury1



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Feeling like the first time for Foreigner

Juke box heroes – rockers Foreigner are heading to Brum



They've sold more than 80 million records. And their biggest hit single, I Want To Know What Love Is, gave them a number one hit in the US, UK and around the world.

Now Foreigner are back with a headline tour that will reflect on their remarkable rock legacy.

The band will perform at Birmingham's Symphony Hall on Tuesday, with special guests Joanne Shaw Taylor and John Parr.

It will be a true homecoming for founding member and lead guitarist, Mick Jones, who hails from the UK and formed the band in New York City in 1976 alongside fellow Briton and ex-King Crimson member Ian McDonald, along with American vocalist Lou Gramm.

Fans will see why it Feels Like The First Time as their performances include their unforgettable anthems I Want To Know What Love Is, Juke Box Hero, Waiting For A Girl Like You, Cold As Ice, Feels Like The First Time, Hot Blooded, Urgent and That Was Yesterday.

Mick says he was thrilled that the band was still together and playing live. "I never could have imagined when I set out to create Foreigner 40 years ago, that we'd still be touring around the world and performing the music we love all these years later. I can't express the gratitude I feel when fans share stories of how our songs have been woven into their milestones and memories over the years."

The band have enjoyed ten multi-platinum albums and 16 top 30 hits. They remain one of the most popular rock acts in the world and are responsible for some of rock and roll's most enduring songs.

The band recently released a new 10-inch vinyl four-track EP The Flame Still Burns and the celebrations will continue with the release of a 20-track album 40 this month, which contains the band's biggest hits.

That will be followed a week later by a double album of the same name, tracing the four-decade-long history. The May 19 release will contain new songs as well as all of the much-loved hits. A vinyl version is coming on June 2.

Foreigner are Mick Jones (lead guitar), Kelly Hansen (lead vocals), Jeff Pilson (bass, vocals), Tom Gimbel (rhythm guitar, sax, vocals), Michael Bluestein (keyboards), Bruce Watson (guitar) and Chris Frazier (drums).

Mick had enjoyed an interesting career before former Foreigner and didn't intend for it to be a band that lasted four decades.

"Well, I had a pretty interesting career up until then. Which had led me to France, [where] I got to play with a lot of musicians who were coming in and out of Paris, and did sessions with quite a few people, and started to learn a little about writing. And it was the time of The Beatles, so obviously everybody was trying to write songs [like The Beatles]. I was learning the songs just to educate myself, really, as to chord structures and melodies.

MECCA

"But what led me to forming a band eventually – my own band – is that I had been in a couple of bands. I went back to England, and finally started [playing] again in my mid-20s, and my dream was always to come over to the USA. From an early age, y'know, America represented this mecca. And gradually, I started to increase my focus on writing, alongside playing with a band called Spooky Tooth.

I played in a band with the guitar player Leslie West [of Mountain] for a while. Unfortunately all those things sort of came to a fizzle, and I was kind of left high and dry in New York for a while, not really knowing what to do... I decided it was time to make a decision. Either I make a stand, or I let the water wash over me.

"So that led to me just starting writing, really. Just sitting down all day, just trying to get some flow going,

It was the dawn of punk . . . what I was doing was the exact opposite

trying to write some stuff that I would be comfortable with. Not pandering to any particular style or commercial style. And that was sort of the code I had.

"Even though some of our music may be regarded as poppy, I think the basis of it has always been rock, and infusions of soul here and there. I didn't really know where we fit, actually . . . there were a few older bands in those days, too. But there wasn't a new scene for bands like mine. It was the dawn of punk and new wave, so [what I was doing] was the exact opposite."

Mick knew that he was onto something special when the band recorded I Want To Know What Love Is.

"I did. I knew it was going to be special. The thing was how to keep it out of the traditional pop-rock ballad thing, with playing guitars and stuff like that. Plus apart from the little 'ding-ding-ding' riff, which was a synthesizer, pretty much everything else on there was acoustic. No electric guitar. Which wasn't a purposeful thing, but as the song progressed, I took a lot of pains in holding back any ideas about augmenting it with unnecessary frill."

● For more entertainment news and reviews see The Ticket in your Express & Star every Friday.

The Slow Readers Club



Read all about it as band's slow rise to top continues

MANCHESTER band The Slow Readers Club are bringing their soaring indie rock anthems to Wolverhampton's Slade Rooms next week, following the release of their third album, *Build A Tower*.

The quartet, who have drawn comparisons with The Killers, Interpol and The National, will be playing the Broad Street venue on Thursday, May 17, as they prepare for various festival dates this summer.

The group's brooding electro sound has taken on epic proportions with *Build A Tower* as tracks such as *You Opened Up My Heart*, *Lives Never Known* and *Distant Memory* are likely to attract new fans.

It is the band's first album with the Modern Sky label,

following the release of their self-titled debut album in 2011 and *Cavalcade* in 2015.

Of *Build A Tower*, released last Friday, the band say: "We're really proud of the record as we've learned a lot since our last, self-released, album."

"*Build A Tower* feels like a big step up. Even though fans have heard a couple of the tracks played on the last tour, there's a lot we've been holding back until they had the album in their hands, so we're also looking forward to getting out and playing live."

Fronted by singer Aaron Starkie, The Slow Readers Club features his brother Kurtis (guitar), James Ryan (bass) and David Whitworth (drums). In recent times they supported James on an arena tour and in their own right sold out Manchester's 2,000 seat Albert Hall.

Ooh Betty, Frank has turned into Joe



Comedy star Joe Pasquale takes on one of British TV's favourite comic roles when he plays accident-prone Frank Spencer in the first stage production of *Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em*.

The squeaky-voiced funnyman will be stepping into the shoes (or should that be rollerskates) of Michael Crawford, who found fame in the classic TV sit-com during the 1970s.

The UK tour comes to Wolverhampton Grand Theatre from Tuesday to Saturday, May 19.

Joe is no stranger to the Grand having visited several times during 20 years of stand-up tours.

In the play the long-suffering wife of Frank, Betty, will be played by Sarah Earnshaw. His mother-in-law, Mrs Fisher, is played by Susie Blake, whose credits include *Coronation Street* and *Mrs Brown's Boys*, as well as being one of Victoria Wood's *As Seen on TV* ensemble.

The stage adaptation has been written by Guy Unsworth, who also directs, and is based on the original TV series by Raymond Allen. The set by Simon Higlett apparently reflects Frank's enthusiastic

rather than accomplished attempts at home DIY.

Other theatre highlights over the coming week include Agatha Christie thriller *Love from a Stranger* at the New Alexandra Theatre in Birmingham from Tuesday to Saturday. Frank Vosper's rewrite of the Christie psychological thriller has been moved to the 1950s by director Lucy Bailey and is the story of a whirlwind romance that turns sinister. A group of 40 something ladies aim to meet their idols in new musical *The Band*, featuring the music of Take That, at Birmingham Hippodrome until Saturday.

Just happy to get out of the house

TV comic Chris Ramsey is bringing his new tour show to the Black Country.

The popular Geordie will be stopping off at Dudley Town Hall next Friday, May 18, with his *The Just Happy To Get Out Of The House Tour*. Ramsey has appeared on *Live At The Apollo*, *The John Bishop Show*, *Celebrity Juice*, *Never Mind The Buzzcocks* and *8 Out of 10 Cats*. He also hosts *The Chris Ramsey Show* on Comedy Central. Tickets cost £20 plus booking fees from www.boroughhalls.co.uk or on 01384 812812.



Exploring anxiety, sex and music at the Rep

The tempestuous relationship between sex, anxiety and music is explored in a new production from one of Europe's top theatre directors, Calixto Bieito. *The String Quartet's Guide to Sex and Anxiety* will receive its world premiere at Birmingham Repertory Theatre from Saturday to Saturday (May 12-19) before embarking on an international tour. The production features four actors - including Band of Gold's Cathy Tyson and Miltos Yerolemos from *Game of Thrones* - alongside award-winning musicians The Heath Quartet performing music by Beethoven. Calixto Bieito said: "The String Quartet's Guide to Sex and Anxiety is like a symphonic poem for a quartet of musicians, and a quartet of voices. It will consider the human condition today, and where anxiety and depression stem from." See birmingham-rep.co.uk

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CHOICE



Graham Norton

Eurovision Song Contest 2018 (BBC1, 8pm)
Graham Norton returns to the commentary box to cover all the action from tonight's Grand Final, live from the Altice Arena in Lisbon, following Portugal's triumph last year. Salvador Sobral ended his nation's 53-year wait for a victory - or even a top-five finish - in Kiev with his song Amar pelos dois, finishing above Bulgaria and Moldova. Singer-songwriter SuRie will be flying the flag for the United Kingdom this evening with her entry Storm, which the country is hoping will become the sixth winning song from the UK and the first since Katrina and the Waves' Love Shine a Light way back in 1997. Subsequent programmes subject to change.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** The Hairy Bikers' Asian Adventure. (R) **12.00** Football Focus. **1.00** BBC News. Weather. **1.15** Rugby League's Legendary Watersplash Final. **2.00** Live Challenge Cup Rugby League. Castleford Tigers v St Helens (Kick-off 2.30pm). Mark Chapman presents coverage of the sixth-round fixture, which takes place at the Mend-A-Hose Jungle. It is a decade since the visitors last lifted the European trophy, but their good early-season form means they will come into this contest with confidence. The Tigers last won the cup back in 1986, and most recently reached the final in 2014, where they lost 23-10 to Leeds Rhinos. **4.30** Doodlebugs. **4.45** Film: Big Hero 6. (2014) An orphan forms a special bond with an inflatable robot who helps him and his friends investigate a devastating event. Animated adventure, with the voice of Ryan Potter. **6.20** Ready or Not. Game show featuring unsuspecting members of the public who face surprise challenges while going about their daily lives. Paddy McGuinness provides the commentary. **6.50** BBC News. **7.00** Regional Programme. **7.10** Pointless Celebrities. Alexander Armstrong and Richard Osman present as famous theatre actors take part in the general knowledge quiz in which they try to come up with the least likely correct answers to a series of questions posed to members of the public. The contestants are Wayne Sleep, Louise Dearman, Neil Dudgeon, Annette Badland, Gary Wilmot, Rufus Hound, Roy Hudd and Anita Harris. **8.00** Eurovision Song Contest 2018. Graham Norton returns to the commentary box to cover all the action from tonight's Grand Final, live from the Altice Arena in Lisbon, following Portugal's triumph in Kiev last year. Subsequent programmes subject to change. **11.35** BBC News. Weather. National Lottery Update. **11.55** Film: Lay the Favourite. (2012) A Las Vegas cocktail waitress proves a success as a professional gambler, but arouses the jealousy of her mentor's wife. Comedy, starring Rebecca Hall. **1.20** Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.25** BBC News.

BBC2

6.15 David Attenborough's Natural Curiosities. (R) **6.40** Naomi's Nightmares of Nature. (R) **7.10** The Pets Factor. **7.30** The Engineers. **8.00** Absolute Genius Super Tech with Dick & Dom. **8.30** Beyond Bionic. **9.00** Robot Wars. (R) **10.00** Astronauts: Do You Have What It Takes? (R) **11.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **12.00** The World According to Kids. (R) **1.00** Money for Nothing. (R) **1.10** Escape to the Country. (R) **1.55** Film: Finding Neverland. (2004) Fact-based period drama, starring Johnny Depp. **3.30** Top of the Shop with Tom Kerridge. (R) **4.30** Top of the Shop with Tom Kerridge. (R) **5.30** Love in the Countryside. (R) **6.30** The Forest. How a fleet of highly skilled truckers transport the valuable cargo of timber from the Galloway Forest Park to mills north and south of the border. **7.00** The World's Most Extraordinary Homes. Award-winning architect Piers Taylor and actress and property enthusiast Caroline Quentin explore unusual homes in different locations of the world. (R) **8.00** Coast Lives. Weatherman Barra Best voyages around the Northern Irish coastline, encountering some rough weather even he had not foreseen before seeking sanctuary at the Copeland Islands. **8.30** Dad's Army. The platoon takes part in an exercise with the regular army and everything goes well - until Mainwaring assumes the role of an enemy agent on the run. (R) **9.00** The Private Life of the Royal Academy. Documentary shot over five years at the institution, which is celebrating its 250th anniversary this year, offering a unique insight into one of Britain's most enduring cultural establishments. With unparalleled access, the programme illuminates the inner workings of the Royal Academy of Arts and reveals how it embraces the challenge of balancing tradition and innovation. Architect Farshid Moussavi, artist Yinka Shonibare and painter Olwyn Bowey also reveal the complicated process of arranging art works for the famous Summer Exhibition. Narrated by Olivia Colman. **10.20** Film: My Old Lady. (2014) Comedy drama, starring Maggie Smith and Kevin Kline. **12.00** Versailles. (R) **3.40** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Sooty. **6.10** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.30** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Super 4. (R) **6.55** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.00** Star Wars Freemaker Adventures. (R) **7.20** The Tom and Jerry Show. (R) **7.30** Teen Titans Go! (R) **7.45** Adventure Time. (R) **8.00** Thunderbirds Are Go. **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Zoe Ball on Saturday. **9.25** James Martin's Saturday Morning. **11.20** Countrywise. (R) **11.50** ITV News: Weather. **12.00** Little Big Shots. (R) **1.00** Midsomer Murders. (R) **3.00** Ninja Warrior UK. (R) **4.00** Tipping Point: Lucky Stars. (R) **5.00** The Chase. (R) **6.00** ITV News: Weather. **6.15** Regional Programme: Weather. **6.30** Ninja Warrior UK. Competitors from across the UK test their strength, speed and courage in the semi-final of the obstacle-course challenge, hosted by Ben Shephard, Rochelle Humes and Chris Kamara. **7.30** Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule. Madcap panel show presented by the comedian, who presides over two teams nominally tasked with saving planet Earth from any potential alien invasion. **8.00** Britain's Got Talent. Ant and Dec host the fifth audition round of the nationwide talent search, which sees a wide variety of acts, from comedians to contortionists, singers to spoon players, compete to impress judges Simon Cowell, Alesha Dixon, Amanda Holden and David Walliams. Whomever the quartet choose to send through to the live stages will then be in with a chance of winning a huge cash prize and a coveted slot at the Royal Variety Performance later this year, following in the footsteps of 2017 winner Tokio Myers. **9.20** The Keith & Paddy Picture Show. Keith Lemon and Paddy McGuinness re-create James Cameron's Terminator 2: Judgment Day, joined by an all-star cast including Jaime Winstone, Rick Astley and Hank Ossuna. Terminator 2: Judgment Day follows after the news. **9.50** ITV News: Weather. **10.05** Film: Terminator 2: Judgment Day. (1991) Sci-fi adventure sequel, with Arnold Schwarzenegger. **12.30** Jackpot247. **3.00** Babushka. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.15 Motor Sport: Mini Challenge. **6.45** The King of Queens. (R) **7.10** The King of Queens. (R) **7.35** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Frasier. (R) **10.00** Frasier. (R) **10.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.25** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.55** The Simpsons. (R) **12.25** The Simpsons. (R) **1.25** Come Dine with Me. (R) **2.30** A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun. (R) **3.00** A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun. (R) **4.00** Location, Location, Location. (R) **5.00** Formula 1: Spanish Grand Prix Qualifying Highlights. **6.30** Channel 4 News. **7.00** When Harry Met Meghan: A Royal Romance. Documentary exploring the life, character and family history of Meghan Markle, the American actress who has won the heart of Prince Harry, with the pair set to marry at St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, next Saturday. Testimonies from royal experts provide an insight into the couple's relationship from its earliest stages, and interviews with friends and colleagues detail the circumstances of Meghan's childhood and coming-of-age in Los Angeles. As the child of film industry parents who divorced at a similar age to Harry's, Meghan's formative years appear to bear something of a resemblance to those of her royal suitor, and this programme explores her family tree in minute detail - tracing her ancestry back to the moment her father's ancestor's first arrived in America. **8.00** Britain's Most Historic Towns. Alice Roberts reveals the history of Belfast, visiting the shipyards that built the Titanic and getting locked up in the notorious Crumlin Road gaol. Last in the series. **9.00** Film: Cowboys & Aliens. (2011) A Wild-West town dominated by a cattle baron comes under attack by invaders from another world. It falls to a mysterious stranger with no memory to unite the townsfolk, a gang of outlaws and an Apache tribe, in a bid to fight back against the aliens, and learn the truth about his own past. Sci-fi Western, with Daniel Craig. **11.15** Film: 2 Guns. (2013) **1.15** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA. (R) **2.05** Hollyoaks. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.05** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.30** The Gadget Show. (R) **11.25** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.25** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.20** Police Interceptors. (R) **2.20** The Nightmarer Neighbour Next Door. (R) **3.20** The Nightmarer Neighbour Next Door. (R) **4.15** Nightmarer Tenants: Get Out of My House. (R) **5.15** Bad Tenants, Rogue Landlords. (R) **6.10** Rich House, Poor House. (R) **7.00** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away! Agents Stewart McCracken and Elmore Victor head to Liverpool for what they expect to be a routine repossession, but instead face the most challenging eviction of their careers. Behind the front door, they find a critically ill two-year-old child with major heart problems, who is on constant life support and unable to breathe without a ventilator. Meanwhile, Brian O'Shaughnessy and Del Anglin chase £2,000 worth of debt owed by a business based in Kent, and recover £4,000 from a recycling business in Buckinghamshire. Plus, Stewart and Elmore encounter another family in crisis in Birmingham, where a retired couple who acted as guarantor for their daughter's tenancy are liable to pay over £3,000 after she defaulted. (R) **8.00** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away! Agents Delroy and Kevin face a web of deceit in an Italian delicatessen, while Steve and Paul must evict a tenant who has not paid her rent for over 18 months. (R) **8.55** 5 News Weekend. **9.00** Live Boxing. Sam Sexton v Hughie Fury. Coverage of the bout for the British Heavyweight Title, which takes place at Bolton Whites Hotel. Fury suffered the first defeat of his career in September, losing a majority decision to then-WBO world champion Joseph Parker at Manchester Arena. Champion Sexton hasn't lost since 2012, and will be keen to continue his good form in this contest and hold onto the belt he won in October. **11.15** When Eurovision Goes Horribly Wrong. Angela Rippon presents a guide to the song contest's most disastrous moments, featuring contributions from past performers including Dana, Sonia and Lindsay Dracass. (R) **1.55** SuperCasino. **3.10** GPs: Behind Closed Doors. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four
7.00 Nature's Epic Journeys **8.00** Wild Burma: Nature's Lost Kingdom **9.00** Salamander: Blood Diamonds **10.40** Burt Bacharach: A Life in Song **12.10** Singa Bacharach and David **1.10** Nature's Epic Journeys **2.10** Wild Burma: Nature's Lost Kingdom **3.10** Close **ITV2**
11.50 Britain's Got More Talent **12.50** Ninja Warrior UK **1.50** Film: Spy Kids (2001) **2.50** FYI Daily **2.55** Film: Spy Kids (2001) **3.45** Film: Cats & Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore (2010) **4.45** FYI Daily **4.50** Film: Cats & Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore (2010) **5.25** Film: The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King (2003) **6.30** FYI Daily **6.35** Film: The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King (2003) **9.20** Britain's Got More Talent **10.20** Celebrity Juice **11.10** Family Guy **12.30** American Dad! **1.30** Plebs **2.05** CelebAbility **2.40** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.50** Teleshopping **5.50** ITV2 Nightscreen **ITV3**
12.25 Film: Columbus: How to Dial a Murder (1978) **2.00** Prince Harry & Meghan: Truly, Madly, Deeply **4.00** Invitation to a Royal Wedding **5.05** Agatha Christie's Poirot **11.00** Film: Murder on the Orient Express (1974) **1.30** On the Buses **2.00** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping **ITV4**
11.25 Film: Lawman (1971) **12.25** FYI Daily **12.30** Film: Lawman (1971) **1.30** Racing Live from Ascot. **4.30** Film: Octopussy (1983) **5.30** FYI Daily **5.35** Film: Octopussy (1983) **7.15** Film: Police Academy 3: Back in Training (1986) **8.15** FYI Daily **8.20** Film: Police Academy 3: Back in Training (1986) **9.00** Film: Passenger 57 (1992) **10.00** FYI Daily **10.05** Film: Passenger 57 (1992) **10.45** Cycling: Tour Series **11.50** Film: Executive Decision (1996) **12.55** FYI Daily **1.00** Film: Executive Decision (1996) **2.30** Tommy Cooper **3.00** Teleshopping **E4**
1.00 The Big Bang Theory **2.00** Film: Evolution (2001) **4.00** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** Film: Friends with Benefits (2011) **11.10** Gogglebox **1.15** The Inbetweeners **2.25** Tattoo Fixers **3.15** Rude Tube **4.10** Rude(ish) Tube **Film4**
11.00 Arriety (2010) **1.00** Rango (2011) **3.05** Capture the Flag (2015) **4.50** The Devil Wears Prada (2006) **7.00** Men in Black 3 (2012) **9.00** Now You See Me (2013) **11.15** Men & Chicken (2015)

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CHOICE



Sue Perkins

British Academy Television Awards 2018 (BBC1, 8pm)
Sue Perkins hosts the awards ceremony from London's Royal Festival Hall. The shows in the running include Black Mirror, Line of Duty, The Crown and Three Girls, while nominees for awards include Joe Cole, Thandie Newton, Claire Foy, Molly Windsor Brian F O'Bryan, Anna Friel, Julie Hesmondhalgh, Samson Kayo, Anupam Kher, Jack Rowan and Sandi Toksvig. John Motson, will receive the BAFTA Special Award in recognition of his outstanding contribution to sports broadcasting.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Regional Programme. **12.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News: Weather. **1.15** Britain's Fat Fight with Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall. (R) **2.15** Lifeline. **2.25** Points of View. **2.40** Songs of Praise. **3.20** Britain's Best Home Cook. The contestants create their ultimate fish dish displaying their individual home cooking style and then invent a sweet or savoury meal with squash or as the key ingredient. (R) **4.20** Final Score. Jason Mohammad presents a round-up of the classified results and this afternoon's news. **5.30** BBC News. **5.45** Regional Programme.

6.00 **The A to Z of the RHS Chelsea Flower Show.** Jennifer Saunders presents a guide to the 105-year history of the horticultural event, while Adam Frost shares his memories of being involved in the show as both a designer and a presenter. Plus, Arit Anderson and Frances Tophill travelling the country meeting people who are preparing to exhibit their creations at this year's show, and a profile of the event's most prolific gold medal winner Sarah Eberle.

7.00 **Countryfile.** A round-up of rural reports from Hampshire. Matt Baker discovers a plan to make more use of locally sourced timber. John Craven finds out about how oysters are being reintroduced to the Solent, and Elie Harrison visits an innovative project to tackle coastal erosion. Tom Heap investigates the danger of cyber-attacks on farming machinery, and Charlotte Smith and Adam Henson meet the third finalist for The Farming Hero Awards.

8.00 **British Academy Television Awards 2018.** Sue Perkins hosts the awards ceremony from London's Royal Festival Hall. The shows nominated for awards include Black Mirror, Line of Duty, The Crown and Three Girls.

10.00 BBC News.

10.20 Regional Programme.

10.30 **Match of the Day.** Gary Lineker presents highlights of the final round of Premier League fixtures, including Huddersfield Town v Arsenal, Burnley v Bournemouth and Swansea City v Stoke City.

12.10 The Women's Football Show.

12.45 Weather for the Week Ahead.

12.50 BBC News.

BBC2

6.05 Glorious Gardens from Above. (R) **6.50** Life in a Cottage Garden with Carol Klein. (R) **7.20** Gardeners' World. (R) **8.20** Countryfile. (R) **9.15** The Beechgrove Garden. **9.45** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.15** Spring Kitchen with Tom Kerridge. (R) **12.00** Athletics: Diamond League Shanghai Highlights. **1.00** Triathlon World Series: Yokohama. **3.00** Live Challenge Cup Rugby League. Toronto Wolfpack v Warrington Wolves (Kick-off 3.30pm). **5.30** Pig It! (R) **6.00** **Film: Tomorrowland: A World Beyond.** (2015) Premiere. A boy genius in the 1960s finds his way into a spectacular futuristic metropolis while attempting to promote his idea for a jetpack. Decades later, he has grown into a disillusioned adult, while a girl who has the talent and enthusiasm he has lost also finds her way into this strange new world, and together they attempt to uncover its secrets. Fantasy adventure, starring George Clooney, Britt Robertson and Hugh Laurie.

8.00 **Neanderthals: Meet Your Ancestors.** Part one of two. Archaeologist Ella Al-Shamahi and actor Andy Serkis bring the prehistoric humans back to life through animation, revealing surprising similarities to modern humans.

9.00 **Burma with Simon Reeve.** Part one of two. Documentary exploring the country in the aftermath of the humanitarian crisis in which thousands of Rohingya Muslims were driven from their homes by the military.

10.00 **Atlanta.** New series. A man sees an opportunity to turn his life around by helping his cousin become a rap star. Comedy drama, starring Donald Glover and Brian Tyree Henry.

10.25 **Atlanta.** The cousins are arrested after the shooting and while Paper Boi posts bail quickly, Earn is left at the station waiting to be processed along with everyone else arrested overnight.

10.50 **Later Weekend with Jools Holland.** Return of the live music programme, featuring performances by Snow Patrol, Shame, Tower of Power, Jade Bird, Bettye Lavette and Plan B.

11.50 Versailles. (R)

12.45 Versailles. (R) **2.35** Sign Zone: Question Time. (R) **3.35** Holby City. (R) **4.35** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Sooty. **6.10** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.20** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Super 4. (R) **6.55** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.00** Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) **7.25** The Tom and Jerry Show. (R) **7.30** Teen Titans Go! (R) **7.45** Adventure Time. (R) **8.00** The Haunted Hathaways. (R) **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Zoe Ball on Sunday. **9.25** Toronto Wolfpack v Warrington Wolves (Kick-off 3.30pm). **5.30** Pig It! (R) **12.15** Britain's Got More Talent. (R) **1.15** ITV News: Weather. **1.30** Ninja Warrior UK. (R) **2.30** Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs – India. (R) **3.00** Change Your Tune. **4.00** Tipping Point: Lucky Stars. (R) **5.00** The Chase Celebrity Special. (R)

6.00 **Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule.** Madcap panel show presented by the comedian, who presides over two teams nominally tasked with saving planet Earth from any potential alien invasion. (R)

6.30 ITV News: Weather.

6.45 Regional Programme: Weather.

7.00 **Little Big Shots.** Dawn French hosts a variety show featuring some of the world's most talented children, including a blind pianist and displays of martial arts and pizza tossing.

8.00 **Midsomer Murders.** New series. The crime drama returns for a 20th series, which finds Barnaby and Winter joined by a new pathologist, Petra Antonescu (Anamaria Marinca). A woman slips away from a Jane Austen reenactment in full costume, only to be stabbed to death in the woods – her murder being recorded by a drone. The victim is discovered to be an undercover journalist, who had some unusual questions to ask about the village and the country house where the historical event took place. Guest starring Claire Skinner and Samuel West.

10.00 ITV News: Weather.

10.20 **Peston on Sunday.** Political magazine, presented by Robert Peston, with Allegra Stratton. (R)

11.20 **This Time Next Year.** Davina McCall meets an 11-year-old meningitis survivor hoping to finally have hands, and a young couple with fertility complications who dream of starting a family. (R)

12.15 Great Art. (R) **1.05** Jackpot247. **3.00** Motorsport UK. (R) **3.50** British Superbike Championship Highlights. (R) **4.40** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.15 The King of Queens. (R) **6.40** The King of Queens. (R) **7.05** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.55** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.25** Eat the Week. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** Bake Off: The Professionals. (R) **1.30** The Simpsons. (R) **2.00** The Simpsons. (R) **2.30** Film: Cheaper By the Dozen. (2003) Family comedy remake, starring Steve Martin. **4.25** Extreme Cake Makers: Royal Wedding Special. **5.30** Channel 4 News.

6.00 **Formula 1: Spanish Grand Prix Highlights.** Steve Jones and David Coulthard present action from the fifth round of the season at the Circuit de Catalunya in Barcelona, where Lewis Hamilton was the winner last year.

8.00 **Bake Off: The Professionals.** Judges Cherish Finden and Benoit Blin put the five remaining teams to the test making layered slices. The first stage of the challenge involves making 24 tiramisu and 24 roulade praline slices in three and a half hours, while for the showpiece, they must prepare enough modern-themed croque-mouches to serve 36 people.

9.00 **Film: Eddie the Eagle.** (2016) Premiere. Biopic of British sporting underdog Eddie Edwards. Determined to fulfil his dreams of becoming an Olympic athlete, Edwards trains as a ski jumper – a field in which Britain had no other competitors. He secures a place in the 1988 Winter Olympics, where his can-do attitude makes him a media sensation in the face of a losing streak. Starring Taron Egerton, Hugh Jackman and Christopher Walken.

11.05 **8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown.** Jimmy Carr hosts the words-and-numbers panel game, which sees Sean Lock and Seann Walsh taking on guest captain Joe Wilkinson and Danny Dyer, with Bill Bailey in Dictionary Corner. (R)

12.05 **Film: Good People.** (2014) Crime thriller, starring James Franco and Kate Hudson. **1.35** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA. (R) **2.25** When Harry Met Meghan: A Royal Romance. The relationship between Meghan Markle and Prince Harry. (R) **3.20** Gok's Fill Your House for Free. A couple whose plans to decorate their house were thrown into disarray. (R) **4.15** Best Laid Plans. (R) **5.10** Fifteen to One. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Little Princess. **6.10** Wissper. (R) **6.20** Poppy Cat. (R) **6.30** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **6.35** The Secret Life of Puppies. (R) **6.40** Moly. (R) **6.45** Simon. (R) **6.50** Peppa Pig. (R) **7.00** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.10** Thomas & Friends. (R) **7.25** Fireman Sam. (R) **7.35** Olly the Little White Van. (R) **7.45** Rusty Rivets. **8.00** Paw Patrol. (R) **8.15** Nella the Princess Knight. (R) **8.30** Noddy: Toyland Detective. (R) **8.50** Floogals. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.10** Shimmer and Shine. (R) **9.30** Digby Dragon. (R) **9.45** Peppa Pig. (R) **9.55** Peppa Pig. (R) **10.00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.30** Dogs Make You Laugh Out Loud. (R) **11.00** Budgies Make You Laugh Out Loud. **11.55** Penguins Make You Laugh Out Loud. (R) **12.55** Puppies Make You Laugh Out Loud 2. (R) **1.55** Naughty Dogs Make You Laugh Out Loud. (R) **2.50** Film: Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls. (1995) **3.50** 5 News Update. **3.55** Film: Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls. (1995) Concluded. **4.40** Film: Garfield. (2004) Family comedy, with the voice of Bill Murray.

6.10 **Kittens Make You Laugh Out Loud.** Internet videos featuring kittens doing bizarre and humorous things. (R)

7.00 **Kitten's Got Talent.** Internet clips of cats performing physical feats or demonstrating lightning reactions, sporting and athletic skills, super intelligence or bravery. (R)

8.00 **Psycho Pussies: When Cats Attack.** Documentary using online clips and personal accounts to explore the dangerous side of the domestic feline, drawing parallels between big cats and their tame cousins. (R)

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 **Kylie at 50: Especially For You.** Profile of the singer, to coincide with the 30th anniversary of her debut single. The programme features archive footage of TV appearances and personal home videos.

10.35 **Film: Muriel's Wedding.** (1994) A downtrodden Abba-obsessed woman heads for the bright lights of Sydney to fulfil her dreams of the perfect wedding. Comedy, with Toni Collette, Bill Hunter and Rachel Griffiths.

12.40 Funniest Fails, Fails & Flops. (R) **1.00** SuperCasino. **3.10** The Yorkshire Vet. (R) **4.00** Naughty Dogs Make You Laugh Out Loud. (R) **4.45** House Doctor. (R) **5.10** Wildlife SOS. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four

7.00 BBC Young Musician 2018 Grand Final **9.30** History of the Future: Cars **10.00** The Sky at Night **10.30** The Horizon Guide to Space Shuttles **11.30** Britain's Star Men: Heroes of Astronomy **12.30** Science and Islam **1.30** Metal: How It Works **2.30** The Horizon Guide to Space Shuttles **3.30** Close

ITV2

11.20 You've Been Framed! Gold **11.55** Celebrity Catchphrase **12.55** Film: The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (2008) **1.55** FYI Daily **2.00** Film: The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (2008) **3.00** Britain's Got Talent **4.20** Britain's Got More Talent **5.20** Film: Despicable Me (2010) **6.20** FYI Daily **6.25** Film: Despicable Me (2010) **7.25** Film: Pacific Rim (2013) **8.25** FYI Daily **8.30** Film: Pacific Rim (2013) **10.00** Britain's Got More Talent **10.25** The Cleveland Show **12.50** Through the Keyhole **1.55** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.20** Teleshopping **5.50** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3

12.30 The Royal Wives of Windsor **2.30** A Very Royal Wedding **4.00** Prince Harry's Story: Four Royal Weddings **5.00** Agatha Christie's Poirot **9.00** Joanna Lumley's Japan **10.00** Cilla **11.00** Wire in the Blood **1.10** Blue Murder **2.25** Liverpool **1.30** Road to Avonlea **4.55** George and Mildred **5.50** ITV3 Nightscreen

ITV4

1.45 Film: Tobruk (1967) **2.50** FYI Daily **2.55** Film: Tobruk (1967) **3.55** Film: Police Academy 3: Back in Training (1986) **4.55** FYI Daily **5.00** Film: Police Academy 3: Back in Training (1986) **5.45** UEFA European U17 Championship Live. Coverage of a quarter-final match (Kick-off 6.00pm). **8.00** Sporting Funnies **8.10** Film: Police Academy 4: Citizens on Patrol (1987) **9.10** FYI Daily **9.15** Film: Police Academy 4: Citizens on Patrol (1987) **10.00** Film: Ransom (1996) **11.10** FYI Daily **11.15** Film: Ransom (1996) **12.20** Film: The Keeper (2009) **1.20** FYI Daily **1.25** Film: The Keeper (2009) **2.25** The Protectors **2.50** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

E4

2.00 Brooklyn Nine-Nine **2.30** The Big Bang Theory **5.30** Young Sheldon **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **6.30** Film: Battleship (2012) **9.00** Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D. **10.00** The Inbetweeners **11.10** The Big Bang Theory **12.05** Tattoo Fixers **1.10** Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D. **2.05** Rude Tube **3.25** Hollyoaks

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FILM CHOICES

MONDAY
Murder, She Baked: A Peach Cobbler Mystery, Channel 5, 3.20pm
Amateur sleuth Hannah Swensen is plunged into a mystery once again after finding the dead body of one of the owners of a rival bakery, but this time she finds herself under suspicion of murder. Whodunit, starring Alison Sweeney. (2016)

TUESDAY
Cradle Swapping, Channel 5, 3.15pm
Premiere. A young couple cope with the mysterious illness of their newborn baby, but discover the child they brought home is not theirs. Drama, starring Amanda Clayton. (2017)

WEDNESDAY
Maniac Mom, Channel 5, 3.15pm
Premiere. Mandy, a mother in a new town finds herself ostracized after her young daughter outperforms another woman's daughter. Thriller, starring Jessica Blackmore. (2017)



I Know What You Did Last Summer, Friday, BBC1, 12.25am

THURSDAY
Fatal Close-Up, Channel 5, 3.15pm
Premiere. A freelance photographer is suspected of murder when a woman she is assigned to take photos of is killed. Thriller, starring Daphne Zuniga and Adam Huss. (2018)

FRIDAY
Being Blacker, BBC2, 11.05pm
Molly Dineen's documentary about Blacker Dread, a Jamaican-born reggae producer, businessman, father, son and pillar of the community in Brixton. The film focuses on a tumultuous time in his life as he deals with the death of his mother and the prospect of his first prison sentence. (2018)

I Know What You Did Last Summer, BBC1, 12.25am
Four teenagers accidentally run over a stranger and hide the body rather than inform the authorities, only to find themselves stalked the following year by a shadowy figure who takes great delight in disposing of them in a variety of gruesome ways. Horror, starring Jennifer Love Hewitt. (1997)

Gently does it for Lee in his quest for justice

He may have played a police officer in Inspector George Gently, but in real life actor Lee Ingleby has managed to avoid seeing the inside of a court.

The actor admits he's never attended a trial, saying: "I've had to turn down jury service a couple of times for filming reasons. There was one time where they refused my request to not do it. And I thought, 'I'm going to lose the acting job.' So we had to get letters from the producers and so on to try and change their mind. Which they did."

He adds: "I think it would be quite interesting to be on a jury. Of course you never know what you're going to get. But just to see how it all works would be interesting. How the barristers and solicitors work and all the rest of it. I guess every case is different."

However, the character he plays in the new four-part drama Innocent, which is showing on consecutive evenings across the week, has probably had enough of courts. Ingleby stars as

David, who, after serving seven years of a life sentence for the murder of his wife Tara, is unexpectedly freed on a technicality.

The verdict is good news for his brother Phil (Daniel Ryan), who has campaigned tirelessly on behalf of his brother. But it comes as a terrible blow to Tara's sister Alice (Hermione Norris) and her husband Rob (Adrian Rawlins), who are unable to conceive and have been raising David's children as their own – using the proceeds of Tara and David's estate – and now face losing custody.

Ingleby says: "As far as Alice is concerned, the original verdict was read out and that was it. It was proven in court that David murdered her sister. And that's what it is. David is released on a technicality rather than through some irrefutable evidence. It must be very hard to come to terms with that from her point of view."

It's also tough on his kids: "As far as his children are concerned, they

only know he was convicted of killing their mother. She is no longer around and that's because of their father. That's the story and the life they have been leading.

"David's children have been getting used to normality in their lives with new guardians after the trauma of losing their mother. Having been young when he was jailed, their father now appears as this stranger with a story they can't process."

Then there's DI Will Beech (Nigel Lindsay), who was the original investigating officer and resents the implication that he got it wrong. He's been suspended from the new investigation and replaced by DI Cathy Hudson (Angel Coulby) – which is awkward, as they are secretly in a relationship. And why does Dr Tom Wilson (Elliot Cowan) seem troubled by David's release?

But the biggest question remains – is David really the innocent victim of a terrible miscarriage of justice, or does he deserve to be behind bars?



Lee Ingleby and Hermione Norris star in Innocent, Monday, ITV, 9pm

BEST OF THE REST

year on, some of the people who were caught up in the tragedy share their stories. The documentary hears not just from those injured, but also their families and the investigating officers, as the reveal how their lives have changed since that night. The BBC will also be remembering the tragedy with the documentary Manchester Bomb: Our Story at 10.45pm.

WEDNESDAY
Love in the Countryside BBC2, 9pm
This time, 28-year-old equine vet Heather and 33-year-old cattle and sheep farmer Christine's dates arrive to sample rural life. Christine throws her two dates Joe and Josh straight in at the deep end with some particularly sensitive work, while the competition to win over vet Heather gets serious between her three chosen singletons. Elsewhere, Yorkshire dairy farmer Pete gets to spend some quality one on one time with each of his dates, and emotions run high when he finally reveals who he can see a future with.



Humans, Thursday, Channel 4, 9pm

THURSDAY
Humans Channel 4, 9pm
Sky Atlantic's Westworld isn't the only robot uprising on our screens - this homegrown series is also back for a third series. It's a year since the dawn of consciousness, and it seems that humanity currently has the upper hand as the oppressed Synths are struggling to survive. Max (Ivanno Jeremiah), Mia (Gemma Chan) and Flash (Ritu Arya) are living in a designated synth area known as the Railyard, while trying to reach an uneasy peace with the humans – and caring for the comatose Leo (Colin Morgan). Meanwhile, Laura (Katherine Parkinson) is campaigning for synth rights, while Joe (Tom Goodman) has opted for a technology-free life and Niska (Emily Berrington) has withdrawn from the struggle to pass herself off as human. However, when cracks appear in

the Synth community, it seems as if everyone will have to fight for their survival.

FRIDAY
The Royal Wedding: They're Getting Married in the Morning BBC1, 7pm
We don't know if you've heard, but there's going to be a royal wedding tomorrow. The BBC is certainly excited as they bring us the latest news ahead of the ceremony, which will see American actress and humanitarian Meghan Markle marry Prince Harry. The presenters hear from some of the people who are playing key roles, finding out about their own preparations for the occasion. A team of reporters around the venue will also be on hand with updates, as crowds start to gather to claim the best vantage points.

The Bridge BBC2, 9pm
Saga wants to return to work following her traumatic assault, but while Henrik wants to have her on the investigation, Lillian takes some convincing. Saga remains obsessed with finding Henrik's daughters, while he wonders if he will have to give in to the idea that they are no longer alive in order to finally move on.



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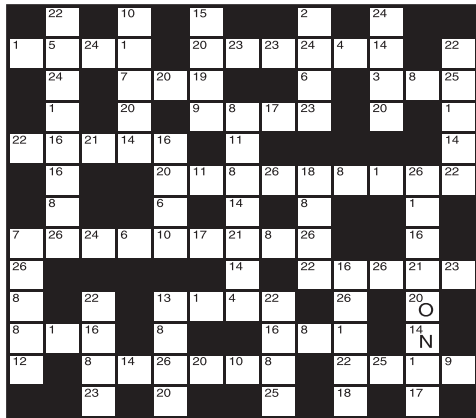


BRAIN GYM

No.479

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
E	M	Q	X	J	G	Y	P	B	S	N	I	F
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
O	R	K	D	L	W	T	C	V	Z	U	A	H

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

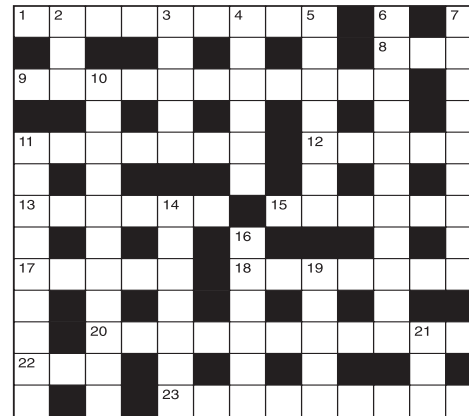
Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. Look round for a way to throw a fight (4,5)
8. He holds a round gardening tool (3)
9. Valiant but open to still further suspicion? (11)
11. Point behind the ship towards the sunrise (7)
12. The Irish lost more than half of them (5)
13. This state is too good to be true (6)
15. How one should march on foot (6)
17. It's socially acceptable in workers - relatively speaking (5)
18. They have to knock inside for treatment (7)
20. Frozen to the core (4-7)
22. It's frequently poetical (3)
23. Their charges will be small (9)

Down

2. We start with a feeling of wonder (3)
3. An inspiration to entertain (5)
4. Displaced unit go for a trip (6)
5. Ant-bite upsets the foreigner (7)
6. Most actors probably hope for it (3,4,4)
7. A mundane subject (9)
10. Breaks off an engagement? (11)
11. Children are given it in different forms (9)
14. Specifically used by diabetics (7)
16. He's mastered the art of eating out (6)
19. Make sure your slip isn't showing! (5)
21. Everything started with her (3)



Quick Clues:

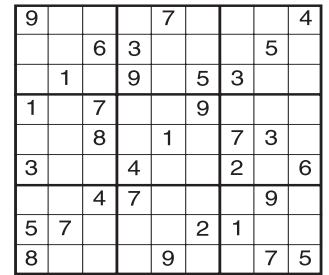
Across

1. Powerlessness (9)
8. Possess (3)
9. Leaning (11)
11. Shorten (7)
12. Smell (5)
13. Multitudes (6)
15. Contrivance (6)
17. Reel (5)
18. Misconception (7)
20. Promotion (11)
22. Revealed (3)
23. In repose (9)

Down

2. Male (3)
3. Attempted (5)
4. Closer (6)
5. Incident (7)
6. Make firm (11)
7. Meddle (9)
10. Confirm (11)
11. Coming to power (9)
14. Transfer (7)
16. Recompense (6)
19. Ledge (5)
21. Zero (3)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid above so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

8	4	5	6	9	7	1	2	3
3	7	1	4	5	2	9	8	6
6	9	2	1	3	8	7	5	4
7	3	8	2	1	5	4	6	9
2	5	9	7	6	4	3	1	8
1	6	4	3	8	9	5	7	2
5	8	6	9	4	1	2	3	7
9	1	7	8	2	3	6	4	5
4	2	3	5	7	6	8	9	1

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
 CRYPTIC - Across: 7 Spaces; 8 Bureau; 10 Untried; 11 Taper; 12 Edam; 13 Staid; 17 Liars; 18 Keen; 22 Limit; 23 Avarice; 24 Vacant; 25 Punnet.
 Down: 1 Assumes; 2 Partial; 3 Relic; 4 Sustain; 5 Deeps; 6 Outre; 9 Editorial; 14 Distant; 15 Designs; 16 Invents; 19 Slave; 20 Smack; 21 Vague.
 QUICK - Across: 7 Choose; 8 Arbour; 10 Include; 11 Vaunt; 12 Vast; 13 Score; 17 Hurry; 18 Lone; 22 Loose; 23 Abridge; 24 Fasten; 25 Aspect. Down: 1 Achieve; 2 Concise; 3 Issue; 4 Bravery; 5 Rogue; 6 Trité; 9 Mercurial; 14 Quieten; 15 Soldier; 16 Beneath; 19 Cleft; 20 Rouse; 21 Trust.

Quiz

1. In which county is the ship-burial site Sutton Hoo?
2. What is the edible fruit of the bush Ribes uva-crispa?
3. Which English bridge was the world's longest single-span suspension bridge when completed in 1980?
4. Which Crazy Gang member was born Robert Winthrop?
5. Where, in Norse mythology, did the principal gods live?
6. Tony Blair's wife Cherie is the daughter of which actor?
7. Which town is the headquarters of the UK Civil Service Commission?
8. Which bird's ancient name was ouzel or ouzel?
9. What is the capital of Italy's Lazio region?
10. Of which branch of biology was Gregor Mendel a founder?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Ulysses; 2 Rockies; 3 Pulp Fiction; 4 Rhode Island; 5 Zoroastrianism; 6 Chris Eubank; 7 The Derby; 8 United Artists; 9 Stretford; 10 Gregory Peck.

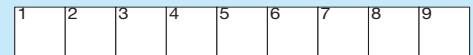
Niner: DEPORTING

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

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341189
3462

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gives delicate,
gives delicate.



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 » MOUNTFIELD 100CC OHV ENGINE
 » ROBUST STEEL CHASSIS

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 » MOUNTFIELD 160CC OHV ENGINE
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 » HONDA GCV160CC ENGINE
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Well-presented home on a quiet cul-de-sac

HEATH HAYES

£270,000

This beautifully-presented and well-maintained detached property in Kensington Place, Heath Hayes, Cannock, lies in a quiet cul-de-sac.

It is for sale through Jayman Estate Agents now at offers over £270,000.

Being close to all local schools, amenities and transport links, its accommodation briefly comprises an entrance hall, a WC, a lounge, a dining room, a kitchen, a utility room, conservatory, boot room, four bedrooms, an en-suite and a family bathroom.

The property also benefits from having an ample driveway to the fore and a well maintained rear garden. In more detail the entrance hall has under stairs storage and laminate flooring.

Call Jayman Estate Agents on 01543 505566.



Five-bedroom extended house on enviable plot with parking

HEATH HAYES

£300,000

<<<

This considerably extended five-bedroom detached house in Kensington Place, Heath Hayes, Cannock, is for sale through Webbs Estate Agents at £300,000.

On an enviable plot with parking for a number of vehicles and solar panels providing an income, a re-fitted kitchen, an entrance hallway, a guest WC, a lounge with double doors leading to the dining room, sitting room with door to the games room.

To the first floor there are five bedrooms with the master having a dressing area and an en-suite shower room, a three-piece family bathroom completes the first floor.

Externally the property has an enclosed rear garden accessible via both sides of the house. Parking is provided by a large driveway.

Contact Webbs Estate Agents on 01543 468846.

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NEW

BREWERY STREET RUGELEY

Studio Apartment in town centre location comprising open plan living space with fully fitted Kitchen and appliances. Lounge/Bedroom area with spacious Shower Room. Communal entrance with Coded Security system. VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. ELECTRICITY INCLUDED WITHIN RENTAL AMOUNT. NO DSS. NO SMOKERS. NO PETS. EPC Rating D DEPOSIT £575

£415 pcm



NEW

CHURCH STREET RUGELEY

First Floor FURNISHED Flat. Accommodation comprises of Kitchen with appliances, Lounge, One Bedroom (single occupancy only) and Shower Room. Electric Heating. Off Road Parking. VIEWING RECOMMENDED. NO DSS. NO SMOKERS. NO PETS. EPC Rating E DEPOSIT £595 (Pictures taken Feb 2016)

£430 pcm



NEW

BRERETON HOUSE BRERETON

Refurbished ground floor apartment located within a period property. Accommodation comprises Communal Entrance Hall, Hallway, open plan re-fitted Kitchen/Lounge with some appliances. Re-fitted Bathroom and Double Bedroom. Electric storage heating. Communal Gardens. Shared parking to rear. VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. NO DSS. NO PETS. NO SMOKERS. EPC Rating D DEPOSIT

£499 pcm



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Well presented modern Coach House Apartment. Comprising of Entrance Hall, first floor spacious Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms and Bathroom. External storage room. 2 Allocated parking spaces. VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. NO DSS. NO SMOKERS. NO PETS. EPC Rating C DEPOSIT £782

£565 pcm



NEW

THE LINDENS RUGELEY

Modern first floor apartment in popular location. Accommodation comprises Communal security Entrance, Entrance Hall, open plan Lounge/Kitchen with some appliances. Two Bedrooms with En-suite to Master. Bathroom. Allocated Parking. VIEWING RECOMMENDED. NO DSS. NO PETS. NO SMOKERS. EPC Rating D DEPOSIT £795 Photos Taken Nov 2017

£575 pcm



THE FAIR RUGELEY

Modern Townhouse with town centre location. Accommodation comprises Entrance Hall, Guest Cloakroom, Lounge, Kitchen with some appliances. Two Bedrooms and Bathroom. VIEWING RECOMMENDED. NO DSS. NO SMOKERS. NO PETS. EPC Rating B DEPOSIT £805 Photos Taken March 2015

£580 pcm



NEW

HIGH STREET COLTON

Spacious Semi Detached Bungalow in semi rural, quiet village location. Accommodation comprises of Entrance Hall, spacious Lounge/Diner, refitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms and re-fitted Bathroom with Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing. Gardens to front and rear and Driveway. VIEWING RECOMMENDED. NO DSS. NO SMOKERS. NO PETS. EPC Rating C DEPOSIT £935

£625 pcm



NEW

ARMITAGE ROAD RUGELEY

Well presented modern Furnished Coach House Apartment. Comprising of Entrance Hall, open plan Lounge, Kitchen, spacious Double Bedroom and Bathroom. External storage room. Allocated parking space. VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. NO DSS. NO SMOKERS. NO PETS. EPC Rating C DEPOSIT £900

£650 pcm



NEW

HIGH STREET COLTON

Spacious detached property in sought after semi rural location with lovely views. Accommodation comprises of Entrance Hall, Lounge/Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility Room and Guest Cloakroom. Three Bedrooms and Shower Room. Garage and Gardens to the front and rear. NO DSS. NO SMOKING. PETS CONSIDERED. EPC Rating D Deposit £1003

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- Two further bedrooms
- Family bathroom
- Garden front and rear
- Driveway
- EPC rating C

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HEDNESFORD STAFFORD LANE



- A spacious two bedroom semi detached
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, dining area
- Kitchen, two bedrooms
- Refitted bathroom
- Gardens front and rear
- Garage
- Driveway
- Awaiting EPC rating

£154,950

HEATH HAYES DENBURY CLOSE



- A three bedroom property
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, refitted kitchen/diner
- Three bedrooms
- Family bathroom
- Enclosed rear garden
- Tandem garage
- Driveway
- EPC rating D

£209,950

HEATH HAYES SALISBURY DRIVE



- A three bedroom detached house
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Entrance hallway
- Lounge, dining room
- Kitchen, utility, guest cloakroom
- Master bedroom with ensuite
- Family bathroom
- Garage, gardens, driveway
- Awaiting EPC rating

£230,000

HEDNESFORD CHAFFINCH CLOSE



- A two bedroom semi detached bungalow
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge and dining room
- Refitted kitchen
- Refitted shower room
- Conservatory, carport
- Garden to rear and side
- Driveway
- Awaiting EPC rating

£169,950

CANNOCK NEWHALL STREET



- A two bedroom property
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge and dining room
- Kitchen and guest cloakroom
- Two good sized bedrooms
- Family bathroom
- Good sized rear garden
- EPC rating E

£139,950

CANNOCK ST ADANS ROAD



- A two bedroom semi detached house
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, refitted kitchen/diner
- Two good sized bedrooms
- Family bathroom
- Garden to front
- Corner plot
- Enclosed rear garden
- Awaiting EPC rating

£124,950

CHESLYN HAY STATION STREET



- A traditional two bedroom property
- Lounge, dining room
- Refitted kitchen
- Refitted first floor bathroom
- Two good sized bedrooms
- Garden to rear
- Viewing recommended
- Ideal first time buy
- EPC rating G

£129,950

HEDNESFORD GREENHEATH ROAD



- Fully renovated three bed
- Two reception rooms
- Breakfast kitchen with dining
- Utility/Guest WC
- Family bathroom
- En-suite Shower room
- Driveway, garage
- Awaiting EPC rating

£224,500

CANNOCK MANOR AVENUE



- Spacious three bedroom detached
- Hallway, Lounge
- Dining room
- Kitchen
- Utility room, cloakroom
- Three good sized bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Awaiting EPC rating

£242,000

HEATH HAYES STRAUSS DRIVE



- A spacious four bedroom
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, kitchen, dining room
- Utility, guest cloakroom
- Master with ensuite
- Shower room
- Garden to rear, driveway
- EPC rating C

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- Bathroom
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- Awaiting EPC rating

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PROPERTY



Four-bed home has re-fitted kitchen and bathroom

Being deceptively spacious, this four double bed roomed property in Walsall Road, Great Wyrley, Walsall, also comes with a re-fitted kitchen and bathroom.

Adding to this, open views to the rear, it is for sale through Webbs estate agents at offers over £350,000. The ground floor accommodation

GREAT WYRLEY
£350,000

briefly comprises of an entrance porch, entrance hallway, a large lounge, dining room, re-fitted kitchen, utility room, ground floor shower

room and a sun room opening onto the enclosed rear garden. To the first floor there are four double bedrooms and a re-fitted bathroom.

Outside the property has an enclosed rear garden.

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- Fully Double Glazed
- Oil Fired Central Heating
- Communal Ground
- Sorry no DSS, pets or smokers
- EPC rating C (73)

£625pcm

SHOOT LODGE, ACTON PASTURES, TEDDESLEY ROAD, PENKRIDGE



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- Extended
- Sought After Location
- Refitted Kitchen/diner
- Refitted Bathroom
- Three Bedrooms
- Utility Room
- Garage
- Enclosed Rear Garden
- Driveway
- Viewing Essential

£190,000


NEW **HEDNESFORD**
HAYCOCK ROAD



- Modern Well Presented Throughout
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Spacious Lounge Diner
- Modern Kitchen
- Guest Wc
- Enclosed Rear Garden
- Two Allocated Parking Spaces
- Viewing Essential

£165,000

NEW **CANNOCK**
PEREGRINE WAY



- Extended Modern Town House
- Three Bedrooms
- En-suite To Master
- Lounge With Dining Room
- Enclosed Rear Garden
- Driveway
- Sought After Location
- Viewing Essential

£190,000



NEW **Heather Road,**
Hednesford, Cannock



• NO CHAIN • FANTASTIC OUTLOOK TO THE REAR OVER GREEN SPACE AND CANNOCK CHASE • Webbs Estate Agents have pleasure in offering this lovely spacious family home, situated in popular cul de sac location, being close to all local amenities, shops, schools and walking distance to Cannock Chase. Briefly comprising through hallway, lounge diner, kitchen, diner, three bedrooms and bathroom. Externally there is garage, driveway and landscaped gardens backing onto park and Cannock Chase. OFFERING WITH NO CHAIN

£169,950

NEW **CANNOCK**
ALBANY DRIVE

- Stunning Executive Home
- Extended Family Home
- Quiet Sought After Location
- Modern Open Plan
- Family/living/kitchen Area
- Four Bedrooms
- En-suite To Master
- Lounge, Study
- Enclosed Landscaped Rear Garden
- Viewing Is Essential

£395,000

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£240,000

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OLD PENKRIDGE ROAD, CANNOCK

- Detached Family Home
- Five Bedrooms & Study
- Two Bathrooms
- Open Plan Kitchen / Dining Room

£430,000



- Living Room & Family Room
- No Upward Chain
- Utility / WC
- Very Desirable Road



LINGFIELD ROAD, NORTON CANES

- FIVE BEDROOMS
- TWO EN-SUITES, BATHROOM
- LOUNGE AND DINING ROOM
- BREAKFAST KITCHEN

£285,000



- CORNER PLOT
- MASTER WITH DRESSING ROOM
- DOWNSTAIRS WC
- NO UPWARD CHAIN



BURGOYNE STREET, CANNOCK

- EXECUTIVE DETACHED HOME
- EN-SUITE & BATHROOM
- IMPRESSIVE ACCOMMODATION
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING

£260,000



- OPEN PLAN KITCHEN / DINING ROOM
- CONSERVATORY & LOUNGE
- UTILITY ROOM & GUEST WC
- NO CHAIN



Turquoise Grove, Heath Hayes

- FOUR BEDROOMS
- ENSUITE & BATHROOM
- CUL DE SAC LOCATION
- GARAGE

£255,000



- LOUNGE & DINING ROOM
- FRONT & REAR GARDEN
- CONSERVATORY
- MODERN KITCHEN



HATTON ROAD, CANNOCK

- DETACHED FAMILY HOME
- FOUR BEDROOMS
- OPENFIELD TO FRONT
- LOUNGE AND DINING ROOM

£249,950



- DOWNSTAIRS WC
- VERY POPULAR LOCATION
- CLOSE TO CANNOCK CHASE
- CARPORT AND GARAGE



BADGER CLOSE, HUNTINGTON

- THREE BED DETACHED HOUSE
- BATHROOM & DOWNSTAIRS WC
- LOUNGE AND DINING ROOM
- SOUTH FACING REAR GARDEN

£240,000



- MODERN FITTED KITCHEN
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING
- LARGE MASTER BEDROOM WITH EN-SUITE



WALLACE CLOSE, NORTON CANES

- THREE BED DETACHED
- NO UPWARD CHAIN
- DUAL ASPECT LOUNGE / DINER
- CONSERVATORY

£160,000



- GARAGE & DRIVEWAY
- FITTED KITCHEN
- REFITTED BATHROOM
- CLOSE TO AMENITIES



WALSALL ROAD, CANNOCK

- TRADITIONAL SEMI DETACHED
- LARGE REAR GARDEN
- SECURE OFF ROAD PARKING AT REAR
- TWO GOOD SIZE BEDROOMS

£140,000



- OPEN PLAN KITCHEN / DINER
- FRONT FACING LOUNGE
- CLOSE TO CANNOCK TOWN



COPPICE COURT, WALSALL WOOD

- FIRST FLOOR APARTMENT
- TWO BEDROOMS
- SECURE GATED PARKING
- OPEN PLAN LOUNGE / KITCHEN

£95,000



- LANDSCAPED COMMUNAL GARDENS
- MODERN KITCHEN & BATHROOM SUITES
- NO UPWARD CHAIN
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING



Rowan Road, Shoal Hill

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HEDNESFORD ROAD, HEATH HAYES

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MIDLAND ROAD, HUNTINGTON

SOLD STC
Similar Properties Required



HARPERS COURT, HEATH HAYES

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Similar Properties Required



Greig Court, Heath Hayes

- Ground floor apartment
 - Lounge with feature fire
 - Kitchen with some appliances
 - Double bedroom
 - Electric heating
 - Parking available
- £425pcm Sorry no dss & no pets



Willowbrook Court, Hednesford

- First floor apartment
 - Open plan kitchen / lounge
 - One double bedroom
 - Bathroom with shower over bath
 - Allocated parking
 - Available now
- £505pcm Sorry no dss & no pets



Stafford Lane, Hednesford

- Traditional semi detached home
 - Kitchen / breakfast room with appliances
 - Three bedrooms
 - Bathroom with shower over bath
 - Garage and driveway
 - Available May 2017
- £750pcm Sorry no dss and no pets



Pye Green Road, Cannock

- Detached family home
 - Four reception rooms
 - Four bedrooms
 - Two bathrooms
 - Driveway with ample parking
 - Available now
- £900pcm Sorry no DSS



Balfour House, High Green

- Ground floor apartment
 - Open plan kitchen / Lounge
 - Double bedroom
 - Shower room
 - Town centre location
 - Available now
- £425pcm Sorry no dss & no pets



Rosebay Meadows, Heath Hayes

- Immaculately presented semi-detached property
 - Two bedrooms
 - Spacious Lounge
 - Double glazing and electric heating
 - Fitted kitchen with cooker and hob
 - Modern style bathroom
- £575 pcm strictly no pets, children or DSS



Eagleworks Drive, Walsall

- Terrace House
 - Kitchen with oven & hob
 - Spacious lounge
 - Three double bedrooms
 - Two bathrooms
 - Available now
- £650pcm Sorry no DSS & no pets



Coppice Lane, Cheslyn Hay

- Detached bungalow
 - Large lounge
 - Two double bedrooms
 - Recently decorated throughout
 - Driveway & Garage
 - Available now
- £650pcm Sorry no dss & no pets



Milton Road, Cannock

- Semi detached property
 - Spacious lounge
 - Kitchen / Diner
 - Three bedrooms
 - Driveway and garden
 - Available June 2018
- £650pcm Sorry no dss & no pets



Purcell Close, Heath Hayes

- Modern mid terrace town house
 - Kitchen with some appliances
 - Three bedrooms
 - Two bathrooms
 - Driveway & garden
 - Available mid May 2018
- £675pcm Sorry no dss & no pets



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Great Wyrley Office - £285,000



CHURCHBRIDGE, WATLING STREET

- Newly built detached bungalow
- Set just off Watling Street
- High specification interiors
- Low maintenance rear garden

Great Wyrley Office - £225,000



CHESLYN HAY, DUNDALK LANE

- Stunning Semi-Detached Bungalow
- Refurbished Throughout
- Prime Location
- No Upward Chain

Great Wyrley Office - £500,000



GREAT WYRLEY, LOVE LANE

- Impressive detached residence
- Highly desirable location
- Superb kitchen / family room
- Good sized overall plot

Burntwood Office - £430,000



CHASE TERRACE, RUGELEY ROAD

- Executive style detached house
- Extended accommodation
- Sought after location
- Viewing essential

Great Wyrley Office - £340,000



GREAT WYRLEY, FOREST WAY

- Modern Detached Residence
- Cul-de-sac Location
- Conservatory
- Double Garage

Great Wyrley Office - £330,000



SHARESHILL, MIDDLE HILL BARNS

- Semi-detached barn conversion
- Immaculate interiors
- Open views over fields to rear
- Off road parking & garage

Burntwood Office - £155,000



CHASETOWN, HOSPITAL ROAD

- Semi-detached residence
- Requires modernisation
- Superb field views
- No onward chain

Great Wyrley Office - £130,000



GREAT WYRLEY, WALSALL ROAD

- Mid Terraced House
- Ground Floor
- Garage & Garden To The Rear
- No Upward Chain

Burntwood Office - £110,000



BURNWOOD, HOSPITAL ROAD

- First Floor Maisonette
- Two Good Sized Bedrooms
- Delightful Views to the Front
- No Upward Chain

Burntwood Office - £105,000



CHASE TERRACE, NEW PLANT

- First floor apartment
- Cul-de-Sac location
- Immaculately presented interiors
- Juliet balcony with woodland views



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Littleworth Road RAWNSLEY  Five bedroom detached family home / NO UPWARD CHAIN / Breakfast kitchen / Drive for more than ten vehicles / Enclosed rear garden / EPC: C Offers in Excess of £400,000	Hednesford Road RUGELEY  Deceptively spacious five/six bedroom detached house / Spacious five/six bedroom detached house / First floor annexe offering a further bedroom, lounge and kitchenette / Large rear garden / £350,000	Dartmouth Road CANNOCK  Immaculately presented four bedroom semi detached house / Contemporary design & high specification finish throughout / Stunning open plan ground floor layout / Driveway for three vehicles £325,000	Albany Drive WIMBLEBURY  Immaculately presented executive detached family home / Four double bedrooms / Set back & raised from the road on good sized plot down quiet cul-de-sac / Spacious living & sleeping accommodation £315,000	Linnet Close HUNTINGTON  Outstanding four bedroom executive detached home / NO ONWARD CHAIN / Secluded corner plot / Positioned at end of peaceful cul-de-sac / High spec fitted breakfast kitchen £295,000	Wenlock View HEDNESFORD  Executive four bedroom detached family home / Set on small private development / Stunning open plan kitchen-diner / Spacious living room / High spec kitchen / En-suite plus guest WC £295,000
Rochester Way HEATH HAYES  Spacious well presented and superbly maintained four bedroom detached house / Envious corner plot in a sought after location / Stunning new high spec kitchen / Impressive new reception £295,000	Canterbury Way HEATH HAYES  Truly outstanding executive detached four bedroom family home / Finished to a show house standard and immaculately presented throughout / Stunning open plan high spec dining kitchen / Delightful £279,995	Bramwell Drive HEDNESFORD  Outstanding & immaculately presented four bedroom town house / Occupying a large corner plot / High spec finish throughout / Spacious open plan lounge-diner / Two en-suites Offers in Excess of £260,000	Stephenson Way HEDNESFORD  Three bedroom detached house / Quiet cul-de-sac / Spacious lounge-diner / Good sized private rear garden / Garage and driveway for four cars Offers in the Region Of £250,000	Hill Street NORTON CANES  Immaculate three bedroom semi detached dormer bungalow / Set over floors / Situated in quiet cul-de-sac / Open plan kitchen diner / Stunning orangery to rear / Substantial first floor converted dormer Offers in Excess of £250,000	Lichfield Road CANNOCK  Very spacious four bedroom detached house / Open plan dining kitchen / Large open reception hall / Good sized private rear garden / Garage and driveway with ample parking £240,000
Old Fallow Road CANNOCK  Stunning four bedroom Victorian style character property / Lovingly restored and superbly maintained / Period features charm & character throughout / no onward chain / Driveway for 3 cars / 4 Double Offers in Excess of £240,000	Oak Woods CANNOCK  Immaculately presented three bedroom detached house / Stunning open plan living area with kitchen, diner and sitting area / Show house finish throughout / Quiet cul-de-sac £240,000	Hill Street HEDNESFORD  Outstanding four/six semi detached house / Superb contemporary open plan layout on the ground floor / Potential ground floor annex with wheelchair access / large garden / Garage and drive £210,000	Walsall Road BRIDGTOWN  Spacious extended four bedroom detached house / Set on a large plot / Spacious reception rooms and bedrooms / Large private rear garden which is not overlooked, Offers in Excess of £200,000	Pendle Hill HEDNESFORD  Well presented semi detached three bedroom house / Set over three storeys / Spacious lounge and separate dining room / Private rear garden / Superb top floor master bedroom Offers in Excess of £200,000	Pye Green Road CANNOCK  Well presented three bedroom semi detached house / Superb contemporary open plan layout on the ground floor / Modern fitted kitchen & bathroom / Low maintenance private rear garden / Low £199,950
Peel Drive HEDNESFORD  Three bedroom semi detached house / Quiet cul-de-sac / Close to Cannock Chase / Delightful good sized private rear garden / Driveway for six vehicles / Superb open plan dining kitchen with rear sitting area £180,000	Hednesford Road HEATH HAYES  Extremely spacious three bedroom detached character property / Modern method of auction / Set on a large plot / Ideal for investors / Large rear garden stretching over 45 metres £170,000	Wolverhampton Road CANNOCK  Immaculately presented two bedroom semi detached house / Modern open plan kitchen-diner / Newly fitted bathroom suite / Edwardian conservatory / Two double bedrooms / Good sized private rear garden Offers in the Region Of £165,000	Oakleigh Drive BRERETON  Well presented two bedroom semi detached house / Set within quiet cul-de-sac location / Far reaching views of the countryside / Superb contemporary split level layout / Good sized tiered private rear garden £160,000	Huntington Terrace Road CANNOCK  1930's style three semi detached house / Spacious lounge & dining room / Modern kitchen / Driveway / Good sized rear garden Offers in Excess of £150,000	Victory Close WIMBLEBURY  Two bedroom terraced property / Quiet cul-de-sac / Good sized rear lounge / Larger than standard bedrooms / Landscaped private rear garden / Driveway with parking for two vehicles £140,000
Littleworth Road HEDNESFORD  Three bedroom character property / Situated in semi rural location / NO ONWARD CHAIN & VACANT POSSESSION / Two spacious reception rooms / Private rear garden & off road parking £120,000	Church View BRERETON  Charming two bedroom terraced cottage / Spacious lounge / Large double bedroom plus a further good sized single / Private rear courtyard / Off road parking £120,000	Heath Way HEATH HAYES  Two bedroom first floor apartment / NO ONWARD CHAIN / New carpet and freshly decorated throughout / Allocated & visitor parking / New bathroom £110,000	Old School Mews BRERETON  Character one bedroom semi-detached mews property / Allocated parking space to the rear / Feature log burner in the open plan lounge diner / NO ONWARD CHAIN £100,000	Bettys Lane NORTON CANES  Well presented one bedroom first floor self contained maisonette / Ideal for first time buyers & investors / Superb open plan living area / Modern fitted kitchen, newly fitted bathroom / Double bedroom Offers in Excess of £80,000	Apple Walk HEATH HAYES  One bedroom ground floor apartment / Ideal for first time buyers and investors / Good sized open plan lounge-diner / Allocated parking plus visitor spaces £70,000

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- Suitable for Development STP
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GUIDE PRICE: IRO £125,000 plus VAT

LAND/DEVELOPMENT SITE

FORMER PLAYING FIELDS, GIRTON ROAD, CANNOCK



- Suitable for Development STP
- Situated in a Residential Area
- 0.98 Acres (0.39 ha)

GUIDE PRICE: IRO £700,000

DEVELOPMENT SITE

LAND ADJACENT TO 385 NORTON ROAD, HEATH HAYES



- Potential Residential Development Site
- Outline Planning Permission
- Approx 0.46 Acres (0.186 ha)

GUIDE PRICE: IRO £375,000 plus VAT

INDUSTRIAL

MORGANS BUSINESS PARK, BETTYS LANE, NORTON CANES



- Modern Business Unit
- Approx 3,498 sq ft (325 sq m)
- Allocated Car Parking
- EPC Rated C-73

RENT: £19,250 pax

LAND/DEVELOPMENT SITE

FORMER COUNTY GROUNDS DEPOT, CANNOCK ROAD, CANNOCK



- Suitable for Development Subject to Planning
- Situated in a Residential Area
- Approx 1.62 Acres (0.65 Hectares)
- Includes Warehouse Approx 1,800 sq ft (167.2 sq m)
- EPC Rated E-106

GUIDE PRICE: IRO £650,000 plus VAT

RETAIL

MARKET HALL STREET, CANNOCK



- Retail Shop in the Heart of Cannock Town Centre
- Approx 658 sq ft (61.1 sq m)
- Full Height Glazing
- Kitchen and WC Facilities
- EPC Rating C-72

RENT: £25,000 pax

INDUSTRIAL

RUMER HILL BUSINESS ESTATE, CANNOCK



- Industrial Unit Approx 4,420 sq ft (410 sq m)
- Ground & First Floor Offices
- Fully Refurbished
- Allocated Car Parking
- EPC Rating E-112

RENT: £20,100 pax (£1,675 pcm) plus VAT

BUSINESS UNIT

PROGRESS DRIVE, CANNOCK



- Refurbished Detached Industrial Unit
- Approx 3,811 sq ft (354 sq m)
- Enclosed Yard
- Two Storey Offices
- Within Close Proximity of the M6 Toll Road and M6 Motorway Network
- EPC Rated D-95

RENT: £27,000 pax

INDUSTRIAL

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- Various units from 1,821 sq ft (169.21 sq m) to 2,626 sq ft (224 sq m)
- All have Office & WC Facilities
- Allocated Parking
- EPC Ratings Various

RENT: From £10,000 pax plus VAT

INDUSTRIAL

LITTLETON BUSINESS PARK, CANNOCK



- Modern Semi Detached Unit
- Approx 2,300 sq ft (213.7 sq m)
- Ground & First Floor Offices
- Air Conditioning
- Rear Yard
- Car Parking Spaces
- Security Fenced
- EPC Rated D-97

RENT: £13,000 pax

OFFICES

FALCON POINT & POINT EAST, CANNOCK

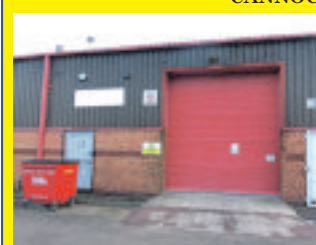


- Individual Office Suites
- From 1,650 sq ft (200.6 sq m)
- Close to the A5, M6 and M6 Toll Road
- Car Parking
- EPC Rating D-93

RENT: £6.50 per sq ft plus VAT

INDUSTRIAL

ADVANCE BUSINESS PARK, OFF BURDOCK CLOSE, CANNOCK



- Industrial Unit Approx 2,637 sq ft (245 sq m)
- Prominent Frontage to Hemlock Way
- Warehouse and Offices
- EPC Rated D-76

RENT: £14,500 pax

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MOTERING

"Alexa, how's my Škoda today?" — check your car out with virtual personal assistant

Škoda owners can check the status of their car with just their voice thanks to the integration of Škoda Connect and Amazon's Alexa virtual personal assistant.

The technology works across all devices equipped with Alexa Voice Services and allows owners to interact with their vehicles on a completely new level.

By simply asking a question to an Alexa-equipped device, owners can receive information about numerous aspects of their car, from current fuel level to the average speed of their last journey. Owners can also check to see if they have inadvertently left their lights on and even ask Alexa to remind them where they have parked.

Simple

To use, owners simply need to wake Alexa and ask a question. So if an owner wants to know whether their next journey requires a visit to a fuel station, they can ask: "Alexa, ask Škoda how far I can drive with the current fuel level".

Alexa then checks the fuel level of the car and replies immediately with the information based on fuel level and the average fuel consumption of the vehicle.

From launch, Alexa can access 12 different parameters relating to the condition and status of an owner's car, with the potential for more functionality to be added in the future.

To activate, owners need to update



You can even ask Alexa where you have parked your car

their Alexa device with a new 'Alexa Skill' — called Škoda Connect — which allows the device to communicate with their car.

Once installed (via an active Amazon account) and linked to the owner's Škoda Connect account, Alexa can access real-time information and relay this to the owner on request.

Škoda Connect is available on Fabia, Rapid, Octavia, Karoq, Superb and Kodiaq models and is made up of three core services: Infotainment Online, Care Connect and Emergency Call. Care Connect gives owners remote access to their

car whenever they are away from it. With the new integration with Alexa, owners can now access information about their car with their voice as well as via a smartphone app.

Launched in 2015, Alexa is a virtual personal assistant developed by Amazon. Through voice interaction, the device can manage a vast range of everyday tasks, including music playback and online shopping. It can also be used to access real-time information such as news, weather and traffic conditions, and has the ability to control smart devices by using itself as a home automation system.

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- 2014 64 NISSAN JUKE 1.5 DCI Diesel, White, One Owner, Full Nissan History, 20,000 miles, Alloys, Air Con, C/Locking, E/Windows, £20 Tax **£9495**
- 2014 14 DACIA DUSTER 1.5 DCI 4x2 AMBIENCE p. Metallic Grey, Alloys, Roof Rails, Air Con, Bluetooth etc, Full History **£7995**
- 2014 14 FIAT 500L 1.3 LOUNGE p. 5-door, MPV, £20 Tax, Alloys, Panoramic Roof, Air Con, E/Windows, FSH **£6995**
- 2011 61 FIAT 500 LOUNGE 1.2 p. Start Stop, Pastel Blue, Panoramic Roof, Air Con, Alloys, E/Windows, C/Locking, PAS, CD, £30 Road Tax, 36,000 miles, Service History **£5495**
- 2011 11 Hyundai i20, 1.2, Red, 1 owner, PAS, C/Locking, E/Windows, Air Con **£3,995**
- 2010 10 PEUGEOT 207S 1.4 p. 3-door, Silver, Alloys, Air Con, C/Locking, E/Windows, PAS, CD player **£3495**
- 2010 59 SKODA YETI 2.0 CR TDI p. Diesel, 4x4, Metallic Blue, FSH, Alloys, Air Con, E/Windows **£6995**
- 2009 59 FORD FOCUS ZETEC TDCI 1.6 DIESEL Only £30 Tax, Alloys, C/Locking, E/Windows, Air Con, Heated Front Screen **£4695**
- 2009 59 KIA SOUL 2 CRDI DIESEL p. Silver, Alloys, Air Con, E/Windows, C/Locking etc **£4695**

2011 11 Hyundai i20 1.2



£3995

2007 07 Suzuki Vitara 2.0



£5295

2004 04 Ford Mustang 3.7 40th Anniversary Edition



£5995

- 2010 59 FIAT 500 SPORT p. Diesel, Black with Black Leather, Alloys, Air Con, Spoiler etc. £20 Road Tax **£4495**
- 2007 57 Kia Rio 1.4, 5 door, Silver, E/Windows, C/Locking, PAS, Air Con, CD Player **£2,695**
- 2007 07 Suzuki Vitara 2.0 LWB, 5 door, Metallic Grey, 59,000 miles, Air Con, Alloys, E/Windows, C/Locking, exceptional for year **£5,295**

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- 2004 04 FORD MUSTANG 3.7 p. 40th Anniversary Edition, Silver, Bullet Alloys, Powerflex Exhaust, Good History, Excellent for year **£5995**
- 1997 R MAZDA BONGO 2.5 Diesel, 4 Berth, Camper Van, Full Camper Conversion p. Cooker, Sink, Fridge, E/Roof, Awning, Porta Loo etc **£7995**

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- 2010 60 VAUXHALL CORSA COMBO DIESEL, Automatic, Gownings Conversion, Metallic Blue, Only 17,000 miles, From new, Air con, E/Windows, C/Locking **£5995**
- 2008 08 RENAULT KANGOO 1.2 Gownings wheelchair adapted vehicle, Silver, Air Con, C/Locking, PAS **£3995**
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Dress to impress with this Transit Custom

MS-RT Ford Transit Custom is the white van man's dream

By James Baggott

Meet the white van man's ultimate dream machine. Designed for tradespeople who demand a little more style and flair from their load-lugging daily runabouts, the MS-RT Transit Custom combines usefulness and stand-out-from-the-crowd looks.

With a whole new look, performance exhaust and smart new interior, the hand-crafted £32,995 van offers those working the tools the chance to dress to impress.

Hand-built in south Wales by a team of talented craftsmen, the MS-RT is now officially available through a handful of Ford Transit dealers across the UK.

The coachbuilding firm has had a meteoric rise, going from zero to 60 vans a month in just over two years and that's set to balloon again. All the parts are built in the factory in Pontypool, including the new front and rear bumpers, spoilers, side skirts and interior trim.

It also features a twin exhaust system – with the option of a speaker that imitates the sound of revving V8 engine, controlled by an App on your phone – unique MS-RT exterior badges, special OZ alloy wheels and lowered Eibach suspension.



The seats have been retrimmed with nappa leather and suede

What's under the bonnet? Don't get too excited, because here it's all pretty standard. The 170bhp EcoBlue 2.0-litre TDCi engine found in other Transit Customs is still in situ. It has 405Nm of torque and comes with a six-speed manual or auto gearbox. As it stands, it's a great engine and more than enough to propel the van along at pace, especially with an empty load space.

As the van is sold through the official Ford network, tweaks to the engine aren't allowed before it's sold. However, customers can come back to MS-RT after they've bought their vehicle and have it upgraded to 208bhp with an M-Sport kit.

The lowered suspension makes it look cooler but hasn't had any dramatic detrimental effect on the ride either. On the Welsh test route, it coped fine with a mix of road surfaces.

It's swift too and although you have to work the manual gearbox to get the best of it, it's even quite fun to drive.

The good news is the modifications haven't affected the payload either – it's still 1,392kg.

The look is the key selling point of the MS-RT van. Available in both single and double cab variants, it is said to appeal to tradesmen and leisure users alike.

Although the looks won't be to everyone's tastes, with a whiff of aftermarket about it, there's little doubt that company owners or family buyers who want to stand out will find it an attractive proposition.

MS-RT has improved the Transit Custom's standard interior adding Ford's latest SYNC3 entertainment system with sat nav and reversing camera. The seats have been retrimmed with nappa leather and suede and the steering wheel is new and feels like it should be in a sports car. It also features a heated windscreen, heated seats and upgraded HID headlights.

While it won't tick everyone's boxes, there's certainly a market for a supercharged-looking white van for the masses.

MS-RT went to great lengths to show us the level of detail they put into hand-building each vehicle and there's no doubt the finish is excellent.

We actually quite like the looks, it's just a shame it doesn't have an uprated engine to match the sporty styling.

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Great value Rio is spacious and very well-equipped

By Ted Welford

The Rio is effectively Kia's Ford Fiesta rival. While it might not be something you've ever heard of, it has actually been around for a fair few years. While not the obvious choice to many in the supermini market, alongside popular choices, it is worth considering just in terms of value for money.

It now gets Kia/Hyundai's relatively new 1.0-litre T-GDi engine, offering 99bhp and 232Nm of torque.

Kia launched its new fourth generation Rio last year, giving it a fresh new look and increasing its size. As one of Kia's best-selling cars, it is paramount that it got it right in the competitive supermini market.

It has received Kia's now trademark front slim grille, and a raft of safety technology, allowing it to compete against rivals from Ford and Seat, which both launched new versions of their popular superminis last year. Smart new LED DRLs have also been added, while the infotainment system has been completely redesigned, accessible via a smart seven-inch touchscreen.

Our Rio test car came with Kia's 1.0-litre turbocharged petrol engine. It's a flexible engine, offering decent performance and low running costs, and ideally sized for new drivers.



The cabin of the Rio is well-laid out

It produces 99bhp and a beefy, for its size, 232Nm of torque. While it's not fast, it can get from 0-60mph in 10.3 seconds and onto a top speed of 115mph. It's paired with a five-speed manual gearbox.

As for running costs, Kia claims it will return 62.8mpg, while emitting 102g/km of CO2.

However, like many of these small turbocharged engines, it's difficult to get anywhere near the claimed fuel economy figures. After a 300-mile journey in it, and with steady driving, we struggled to get anywhere near 50mpg.

One of the best things about the Rio is how well it sits at motorway speeds. For such a small engine, it doesn't feel strained at all even when sat at 70mph. It also rides well for the best part, with only potholes and hefty bumps threatening to ruin its smoothness.

The cabin of the Rio is very well laid out, and everything is logically positioned. The seven-inch touchscreen also makes the Rio's interior look fresh and modern, which it largely is.

It's spacious too, with plenty of room up front and the rear should be big enough to seat two adults comfortably.

The Rio is an extremely well-equipped car that represents superb value for money. This top spec '3' model might seem a bit expensive at £16,785, but considering what you get for the money, it's a great deal.

As standard you get 16-inch alloy wheels, automatic lights and wipers, LED DRLs, cornering function lights and electric folding and adjustable mirrors.

On the inside you get faux black leather upholstery with front heated seats, a seven-inch touchscreen that includes satellite navigation, Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, rear parking sensors and a reversing camera.

On the safety front, it has autonomous emergency braking, lane departure warning and hill-start control. On our 300-mile snowy journey, though, the braking assist refused to work because of the snow blocking the sensors at the front.

The Kia Rio is a great-value, well-equipped and spacious supermini. In top spec '3', it is laden with all the equipment you'd ever need, and for that reason is the pick of the range.

The 1.0-litre T-GDi engine is also fantastically capable on the motorway and around town.

Model as tested : Rio 1.0 T-GDi '3' Eco
Price : £16,785



Kia's new Rio is packed full of standard equipment

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MOTORING

Comfort is the new cool for Citroën's latest C4 Cactus



The film 'The Mug' showcases the busy morning routine of a father and his family

Citroën has revealed a new advertising campaign for the recently launched new C4 Cactus, the ultra-comfortable hatchback.

The campaign is inspired by people and their increasingly busy lives. The advert highlights all the benefits of Citroën's new suspension technology with Progressive Hydraulic Cushions™ (PHC™), which makes its European debut on the new C4 Cactus.

The film 'The Mug' showcases the busy morning routine of a father and his family. Eating breakfast, dropping the children off at school and going to

work. Caught up in the morning rush, the father forgets his coffee on the roof of the car. Due to the exceptional performance of Citroën's suspension with PHC™, the mug remains on the roof for his entire commute, which he then retrieves before rushing into the office. This campaign demonstrates the brand's 'Inspired By You' positioning, because 'Citroën knows that life is hectic enough'.

Benefitting from the Citroën Advanced Comfort® programme, the new C4 Cactus is the first car in the range with all of the Citroën

Advanced Comfort® features. The ultra-comfortable hatch is the first model in Europe to feature Citroën's suspension with Progressive Hydraulic Cushions™, which creates a 'flying carpet' effect. It is also the first model in the world to offer Advanced Comfort® seats featuring new high-density foam that improves seating comfort for both the driver and passengers. There are 12 driver assistance systems and three connectivity technologies available as well as a wide range of efficient engines.

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Refined and practical family vehicle

By John Griffiths

There's a certain expectation when you get behind the wheel of a Skoda: you know it's going to be a good, dependable drive.

Industry pundits agree – the company has scooped a handful of awards already this year – and so do car buyers, with sales in January not only bucking the industry trend but actually rising by almost 11 per cent compared to the previous year.

No doubt new and improved models have played a part, like the award-winning seven-seat Kodiaq SUV launched last year.

So, with a seemingly insatiable demand for SUVs, it's no surprise that Skoda has followed up that car's success with its 'little' brother, the Karoq.

Not that it's exactly little: it's a mid-size SUV, a five-seater, which is actually larger (and with rather more conventional styling) than the Yeti which it replaces.

There's a good range of petrol and diesel engines, the option of a four wheel drive version, and high levels of equipment and technology across the range.

The test car was the top of the range 2.0 TDI in SE L trim, which at £27,795 isn't cheap but stands up well to comparison with any of its many competitors – including the top seller, the similar sized (but lower powered) Nissan Qashqai.

The four wheel drive system is only available with the 2.0 litre diesel, which comes with a choice of power outputs – 150 or 190PS.

There's also a 1.6 diesel option, and two turbo charged petrol engines of 1.5 and 1.0 litre capacity.

A touch of the 'off road' button on the centre console sets the car up for making the most of the all-wheel drive system.

The 2.0TDI is a familiar engine, much appreciated by thousands of Octavia and Superb taxi drivers for its longevity and reliability. In the Karoq, it does the 0 to

62mph sprint in a very respectable 8.7 seconds and yet is capable of 56.5mpg in official tests, with a CO2 rating of 132g/km.

Official tests carried out in a laboratory and always optimistic, so I was gratified to average between 48 and 51 in real world driving.

Many private buyers, though, may be tempted by the 1.0 turbo petrol which starts at the cheaper end of the range – just under £21,000. Don't be put off by the lack of cubes, as it still turns out 115PS, is only slightly slower than the big diesel and returns very similar economy figures.

But it isn't so much the stark statistics which are so important as the manner in which the Karoq performs.

Precision

The Karoq is up there with the best in class in terms of refinement: quiet, smooth and with the dynamics of a competent hatchback. You get the benefits of the higher, SUV seating position and benefit, but without the downside of a rock 'n' roll ride, and a precision through the corners which will please the more enthusiastic driver.

It doesn't feel big or heavy: it feels light and agile, like a physically smaller, lighter car.

Inside, there's room for five adults with plenty of head and legroom all round. The 'VarioFlex' system gives you three rear seats which fold down individually, or can be removed altogether, and there are plenty of storage solutions dotted around the cabin. The test car also had aircraft-style tray tables to help keep those in the back occupied.

The boot is family friendly too with 588 litres of space rising to 1,810 litres with the rear seats folded – significantly more than the Yeti.

The test car, as the range flagship, was naturally very well equipped but even entry-level models come with alloy wheels, electric windows and mirrors, privacy glass, multi-function steering wheel, multiple airbags, one-touch cruise control and speed limiter, roof rails, rear



From the front the Karoq bears a clear resemblance to the large Kodiaq

parking sensors and front radar assist, with autonomous emergency braking if needed.

The SE L also came with alcantara upholstery, satnav with an eight-inch touch screen display offering voice control, and a comprehensive infotainment system including audio, connectivity and a Wi-Fi smartlink system.

Dual zone climate control, a driver fatigue centre, a full range of electronic safety systems, LED lights (including adaptive front lights), heated front seats, pedestrian alert, tyre pressure monitor and rear view camera are among

the other features. And, of course, a Skoda tradition – an umbrella tucked away under the passenger seat,

A heated windscreen and washer nozzles added £250 to the SE L's list price.

The Karoq is a worthy successor to the Yeti: bigger and with a rather more sleek and conventional look (but that's a matter of personal preference). From the front, there is a clear family resemblance to the large Kodiaq.

Whether or not you go for the flagship four wheel drive version, it is refined and practical family transport – with its excellent driving characteristics the icing on the cake.



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Deaths

ADDISON

Victor Reginald

Passed away peacefully on Tuesday, May 1, 2018, aged 99 years.

Victor was much loved and will be missed dearly by all of his Family and Friends.

The Funeral Service will take place on Friday, May 18, 2018 at St. Saviour's Church, Hatherton, at 2pm.

Family flowers only please.

Donations, if so desired for RNIB.

All inquiries c/o

A.J. Sellman
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70 Church Street,
Cannock, WS11 2AH
01543 502322

BRASS

John William

Former Production Manager at Armitage Shanks died peacefully, May 1, 2018, aged 80.

Now reunited with his beloved Wife Margaret.

He will be very sadly missed by all his loving Family and Friends.

Funeral Service to take place 10.30am on Monday, May 21, 2018 at Stafford Crematorium.

By request Family flowers only donations for St Giles Hospice may be sent c/o

The co-operative
funeralcare
17 Brindley Road, Rugeley,
Staffs, WS13 1BN
01829 362375

BROWN

Anthony

Ant, from Hednesford.

Sadly passed away in Hospital on April 27, 2018, aged 68 years.

Beloved Husband of Trishia. Loving Dad of Jason, Timmy and Craig and Friend.

Will be sadly missed.

Service is on Thursday, May 10, 2018, at Stafford Crematorium 11.30am.

Family flowers only.

Donations to either Air Ambulance or Battersea Dogs Home, c/o Funeral Director.

The Funeral care has been entrusted to

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Brindley House
75 Broadhurst Green
Hednesford
01543 879866

BRYAN

Barbara May

Passed away peacefully on Monday, April 23, 2018, aged 89 years.

Much loved and sadly missed by all her Family and Friends.

The Funeral Service is to be held on Friday, May 11, at 10.30am, at Stafford Crematorium.

Family flowers only please. Donations, if so desired, can be made for The Salvation Army.

All inquiries c/o

A.J. Sellman
Family Funeral Directors
70 Church Street,
Cannock, WS11 2AH
01543 502322

DUNNING

Douglas Eric

Passed away peacefully on Sunday, April 29, 2018, aged 76 years.

Douglas was much loved and will be missed dearly by all of his Family and Friends.

The Funeral Service will take place on Tuesday, May 29, 2018 at Chadsmoor Methodist Church at 10.30am, followed by a Burial at Cannock Cemetery.

Flowers welcome.

Donations, if so desired for Katharine House Hospice.

All inquiries c/o

A.J. Sellman
Family Funeral Directors
70 Church Street,
Cannock, WS11 2AH
01543 502322

EGGBY

Arthur Harry

Passed away at New Cross Hospital, on Wednesday, April 18, 2018, aged 92 years.

Arthur will be sadly missed by all his loving Family and Friends.

Funeral Service to be held at Stafford Crematorium, on Wednesday, May 23, 2018, at 3pm.

Flowers welcome or donations for The British Legion will be gratefully accepted on the day.

All inquiries to

HALLIWELL

Funeral Service

70, Hedgesford Road,

Heath Hayes,

Cannock,

Staffs.

WS12 3EA.

01543 459200.

EVANS

Audrey

Passed away peacefully on April 26, 2018, aged 93 years.

Much loved sadly missed by all her Family and Friends.

The Funeral Service will take place on Thursday, May 17, at Bushbury Crematorium, at 2.30pm.

Family flowers only please.

Donations if desired for NSPCC c/o

Stacey's
Family Funeral Directors
30 Greenheath Road
Hednesford, WS12 4AR
01543 422524

HILL

Pearl

Of Heath Hayes.

Passed away in hospital on April 23, 2018, aged 80 years.

Reunited with Husband Reg and beloved Mom of Andrew and a loving Mother-in-law and Friend.

Service will be held at Stafford Crematorium, on Thursday, May 17, 2018, at 3pm.

Family flowers only.

Donations to St Giles Hospice.

The Funeral Care has been entrusted to

MAGUIRE
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Brindley House
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JONES

Barbara

Of Fieldhouse Road, Hednesford.

Passed away peacefully on April 26, 2018, aged 88 years.

Will be sadly missed by all Family and Friends.

Funeral Service will take place at Stafford Crematorium on Friday, May 18, at 11am.

Family flowers only please.

Donations if desired to Midlands Air Ambulance c/o

Stacey's
Family Funeral Directors
30 Greenheath Road
Hednesford, WS12 4AR
01543 422524

McGUCKIN

Nicholas

Beloved Father sadly passed away on May 1, 2018.

Loved Father, Grandfather and Great-Grandfather.

Will be so sadly missed.

Love from Nick, Joanna, Alex, Jessica, Marie, Isaac and Isla.

X X X X X X X

RICHARDS

Joseph Rigby

(Joe)

Died peacefully in the Lancaster Royal Infirmary, on Saturday, April 28, 2018, aged 88 years.

Joe went to Rugeley Grammar School and St Peter's, Birmingham.

He moved to Rhodesia, then returned to England to work at St Martin's College, Lancaster, before retiring in Burton in Kendal.

Beloved Husband of Sally for 59 years.

Loved and loving Father and Grandad.

Funeral Service to be held at St Michael's, Beetham, Cumbria at 11.30am, on Friday, May 11.

Family flowers only with donations if desired in memory of Joe to NSPCC c/o

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SCOTT

Norah Kathleen

Sadly passed away Thursday, April 26, 2018, aged 95 years.

Norah was much loved and will be dearly missed by all her Family and Friends.

The Funeral Service will be held on Tuesday, May 15, 2018, 11am, at Stafford Crematorium.

Family flowers only please.

Donations, if so desired, for Midlands Air Ambulance.

All inquiries

A.J. Sellman
Family Funeral Directors
67 Station Street,
Cheslyn Hay WS6 7EG
01922 410612

Classified Ads

Buy Local, Sell Local

STED
John Roland
Passed away April 8, 2018,
aged 71 years.
Will be sadly missed by his
beloved Wife Kathleen,
Family and Friends.
Funeral Service will take
place on Friday, May 18, 2018,
at Stafford Crematorium,
12.30pm.
Family flowers only.
Donations if desired will be
for CCU Stafford Hospital.
All inquiries to
ROBERT NICHOLLS
Funeral Directors
Stafford
Telephone 01785 253683.

WESTBURY
Ken
Of Cannock.
Passed away on April 29, 2018,
aged 77 years.
A loving Brother, Brother-in-
law, Uncle and Friend.
Will be sadly missed by all.
All Funeral details from
Funeral Directors.
The Funeral care has been
entrusted to

MAGUIRE
Family Funeral Directors
Bridgway House
75 Broadhurst Green
Hednesford
01543 879944

WOOTTON
Margaret Edna
Sadly passed away on
Tuesday, May 1, 2018, aged 72
years.
Margaret was much loved and
will be missed dearly by all of
her Family and Friends.

The Funeral Service will
take place on Thursday,
May 17, 2018, at Stafford
Crematorium at 11.30am.

Family flowers only please.
Donations, if so desired, for
The Dogs Trust.

All inquiries c/o
A.J. Sellman
Family Funeral Directors
59 Church Street,
Cannock, WS11 2JH
01543 502322

Births

It's a girl!

VOWLES
Marnie Ann
Congratulations Karla
and Paul on the birth
of your beautiful Daughter
Marnie Ann,
born on April 19, 2018.
Love always Mom,
Dad, Fallon, Charlie,
Nan and Grandad.
XXX

Birthdays

Jamie Mitchell
3rd May 2018.
HAPPY 5TH BIRTHDAY
have a wonderful
Birthday.
All our love always,
Mommy, Daddy and Em.
XXX

JONES
Ruth
HAPPY 50th Birthday
May 12
Have a great day.
Your loving Family Paul,
Leigh-Anne and Adam.
XXX

Birthday Remembrances

WALKER
Phyllis
May 7.
Loved and missed every day.
God bless.
Geoff, Christine, Grandson
Kristian, Eve and Great
-Granddaughters.

In Memoriam

JONES
Pauline
Died, May 11, 2016.

Memories are like leaves of
gold, they never tarnish or
grow old, locked in our hearts
you will always be loved and
remembered for all eternity.

Loving Husband Eifion,
Children Kerri and Karl,
In-laws Phil and Adele and
Grandchildren Jordan, Harry
and Josh.

XX

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENT CUSTOMER INFORMATION

Please note that the deadline
for our weekly Cannock
Chronicle is 4pm every
Friday, for the following
weeks edition.

This is subject to change Bank
Holidays.

Eg (4pm Thursday)

Cannock Reception will be
closing at 4.30pm on a Friday.

1 Family

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6 Property

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4 Pets & Animals

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1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with it's Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree. Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

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8

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Cars Over £1500

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Full Time General

Kingsmead School

A partner academy in John Taylor MAT
King's Avenue,
Hednesford,
Staffs.
WS12 1DH
Telephone: (01543) 227320
Email: office@kingsmeadschool.net
Website: www.kingsmeadschool.net

Senior Site Technician (Caretaker)

Salary Grade 4: (£17,391 to £18,319) 37 hours per week (Whole time)
Required as soon as possible

Kingsmead School a partner academy in John Taylor Multi-Academy Trust (JT MAT) is looking to appoint an enthusiastic Site Technician to work alongside our Site & Buildings Supervisor, to take responsibility for the provision of efficient and effective caretaking support for the School. We are looking to appoint someone with carpentry and joinery skills if possible.

The post holder will be expected to observe safe working practices in carrying out the required duties and ensure that instructions specified by technical consultants, contractors and manufacturers with regard to Health & Safety are adhered to take responsibility for the provision of efficient and effective caretaking support for the School.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people/vulnerable adults and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. A copy of the 'Safeguarding Policy' is available to view by visiting the School website: www.kingsmeadschool.net

This position is subject to a criminal records check from the Disclosure and Barring Service (formerly CRB) which will require you to disclose details of all unspent and unfiltered spent reprimands, formal warnings, cautions and convictions in your application form.

Further information, application form and job description are available to view or download from our website www.kingsmeadschool.net or by contacting the School.

Closing date: Thursday 10th May 2018 (12 noon)



PART-TIME CLEANER

Required for
Maple Hayes Hall School, Abnalls Lane, Lichfield
Hours: Mon - Fri 4.30 p.m. - 8.30 p.m. and Sat 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
The position entails a 4 hour working day Mon - Saturday i.e. a 24 hour per week. The hours are Mon - Friday 4.30 p.m. - 8.30 p.m. and Saturday 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. during term time.

During school holidays decorative maintenance is undertaken within the contracted 24 hours per week and the 24 hours can be worked to suit the applicant. There are 28 days leave per year which include statutory days. All holidays to be taken in school holidays only. There is also a bonus potential per annum of £750 - i.e. £250 paid three times a year.

This position is subject to an Enhanced Criminal Record Check i.e. DBS check.
Please contact Maple Hayes School on the office number of 01543 264387 for an application form and job description.

KITCHEN ASSISTANT

required for
Maple Hayes Hall School, Abnalls Lane, Lichfield
Hours: 11 a.m. until 4.30 p.m.

Maple Hayes requires a Kitchen Assistant to help out with the running of our Grade 5 kitchen. We will require the successful applicant to come in at 11 a.m. to assist with preparation of vegetables for lunch and to set up the dining room for lunch. You will be required to assist with the distribution of the school lunches between 12.50 and 1.30 p.m. The Kitchen Assistant will be responsible for the washing up and general cleaning of the kitchen after lunch and in preparation for afternoon tea. The Kitchen Assistant will be required to serve afternoon tea to our pupils and clean up afterwards.

The Kitchen Assistant can be asked to work extra hours to help with functions (no more than 6) throughout the year. The successful applicant will be asked to do a Level 1 Hygiene Certificate and will be required to come in at the beginning and the end of term and half term for deep cleaning purposes to dose and open our kitchens. The position has 28 days paid holiday per annum which includes all the statutory day. All holidays to be taken in school holidays only. There is also a bonus potential per annum of £750 - i.e. £250 paid three times a year.

This position is subject to an Enhanced Criminal Record Check i.e. DBS check.
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Dated: May 11th, 2018

JAMES CHRISTOPHER PHILLIPS (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the above named, late of Francis Dene, Francis Green Lane, Penkridge, Stafford ST19 5HE, who died on 11/12/2017, are required to send written particulars thereof to the undersigned on or before 12/07/2018, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

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NOTICE is hereby given that the Staffordshire County Council intend not less than seven days from the date of this Notice to make an Order the effect of which will be to prohibit anyone from proceeding in the following lengths of highway:

- Mill Street - Between its junctions with Hednesford Street and Remington Drive.
- Link Footway between Mill Street and A5190 Lichfield Road - Its full length.

unless the vehicle is being used in connection with the works; or unless the vehicle requires access to premises on the length of road or is being used for police, fire brigade or ambulance purposes.

Alternative routes for traffic will be signed on site. For more information, visit: <https://roadworks.org/?tm=105283974>

The order will come into operation on 29th May 2018 and the said works will commence on or as near as practicable to that date. It is anticipated that the works will be completed by 13th July 2018.

The Order will remain in force for a period of 18 months, or until the Gas mains replacement works, which it is proposed to carry out on or near the road and link footway have been completed, whichever is the earlier.

John Tradewell, Director for Strategy, Governance & Change, No. 2 Staffordshire Place, Tipping Street, Stafford. ST16 2DH

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Goal-den Barry sets tournament alight

A YOUNG Baggies striker has caught the eye by smashing in 10 goals in just five games for an England youth team. Louie Barry racked up the figures for England under-15s at a recent tournament in Italy.

The 14-year-old, who hails from Sutton Coldfield has been at the club since the age of six. Albion academy manager Mark Harrison said: "To score 10 goals in five games for England is outstanding. The previous best in that tournament was three goals."

As well as Barry, Albion's Rayhaan Tulloch has international honours this season and earned a call-up to the European under-17s championships.

Sam Field is in the England u-20s squad, defenders Nathan Ferguson and Kane Wilson have both been called up to England u-18s, while Morgan Rogers has featured for England u-16s.

Chisom Afoka and Rico Richards have been called up to England u-15s, Dara O'Shea has captained Ireland u-19s, and Pablo Martinez and goalkeeper Adam Pryzbek have been called up to Wales u-19s.

Grand Slam trophy to honour Bristow

GOVERNING body the PDC will remember the late former world champion Eric Bristow MBE by naming the Grand Slam of Darts in his memory.

The legendary five-time world champion, one of the game's most recognisable stars, passed away on April 5, aged 60. He also won the World Masters five times and later helped to form the Professional Darts Corporation.

A member of the PDC Hall of Fame, he will now be remembered at the cross-code Grand Slam of Darts at the Aldersley Leisure Village, Wolverhampton, with this year's players competing to win The Eric Bristow Trophy.

PDC chairman Barry Hearn said: "Eric's achievements marked him out as the greatest player of his generation and he'll be remembered forever as the original superstar of darts."

"As such, we felt that it was fitting to introduce The Eric Bristow Trophy, which will be presented to the winner of the Grand Slam of Darts from 2018."

Wolves bring Money Shop deal to an end

WOLVES have paid off controversial shirt sponsor The Money Shop – paving the way for a multi-million pound shirt sponsorship deal as they head into the Premier League.

The club angered fans when signing a three-year deal with the payday loan firm in 2016.

Their name has been emblazoned on Wolves' shirts for the past two seasons and was due to form part of next season's home and away kits.

However, Wolves have ended the contentious deal a year early with what is likely to be a substantial pay-off.

Owners Fosun will now look to attract a big-money sponsor on a lucrative contract as they prepare for Premier League football and the commercial exposure that comes with it.

More than 13,000 people had signed a petition opposing the deal in 2016 complaining that the company's practices 'do not fit with the ethics of the football club'.

Club's driving ambition to offer the best in golf

SPORTING FEATURE

By David Fletcher

IN May 1919, greengrocer Howard Pinson purchased 96 acres of green belt land just north of Bloxwich from the then landowner, the Duke of Sutherland.

The purpose of the purchase was to create a golf course and the cost of the land at that time was a mere £55.

In addition to the purchase of the land, an adjacent Georgian Manor House was acquired from another source and the formation of Bloxwich Golf Club as we know it today was in set in motion.

In those early years only nine holes were possible but in 1924 a Board of Directors was formed and the club officially registered. The registration took place in May 1924 but in July of the same year plans were put forward to complete the full 18 holes to create the basis of the course as we know it today.

During the Second World War years the club and many of the members became heavily involved. The threat of German troops landing by means of gliders resulted in ditches being dug by the Army across a number of fairways in an effort to prevent a successful landing. The evidence of these ditches can still be seen today. A squad of 62 soldiers and officers were billeted at the golf club with the soldiers in tents on the course and the officers in the clubhouse.

They were all made honorary members of the club for the duration of the war.

In January 1945 after the war had concluded entrance fees to the club were reinstated and golf started in earnest once again.

The ownership of the club was in the hands of the original shareholders and their family members, but in 1987 the directors agreed a proposal to reorganise the club in such a way as to ensure its long term future as a members club and to eliminate any possible private 'for profit' development motive. The ultimate aim was to hand over the control of the club to its



The clubhouse at Bloxwich Golf Club

members to perpetuate golf at Bloxwich. Bloxwich Golf Club was purchased by its members in 1988, the money being raised by an interest free loan of £400 paid by approximately 300 members. The creation of Bloxwich Golf Club (1988) Ltd was complete. Over the years there have been many significant changes to the course layout with the clear objective being for all year round golf at Bloxwich.

Hazards

Natural hazards such as pools and open water courses have been extended to improve drainage and specialised work has been carried out on the greens. The putting surfaces have made the greens at Bloxwich the envy of many.

The recently completed winter programme of work has seen many tees being extended and the 15th has become the new feature hole after the lengthening of the hole and the elevating of the championship tee.

Another exciting and recent development at the golf club is Bloxwich Golf Club Teaching Academy

and Golf Club Fitting Centre based close by at Fishley Park Driving Range, Little Bloxwich. Bloxwich PGA Professionals, Richard Dance and John Bandurak have set up a teaching hub open to all. In addition to tuition and invaluable advice on appropriate equipment, they are also both available to help golfers of all standards to improve their game.

In terms of membership to the club, Bloxwich welcomes new members and has no waiting list or initial joining fee. Ladies, gentlemen, juniors and seniors are all welcome to enjoy the course and the facilities of the infamous '19th hole'.

Current club president Paul Boynton said: "With golf continuing to grow in popularity we want to position our club in offering the very best opportunities for local people to come along and enjoy what is a great game. We extend a very warm welcome to visiting golfers and golf societies and to local companies who want to offer golf days to their customers."

All enquiries initially to Stephanie Haywood, general manager, on 01922 476593 ext 1.



The surface of the greens at Bloxwich is the envy of many



A golfer is put through his paces at the new training academy

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Young Leo first to win new award

A YOUNG kickboxer from Rugeley has become the first recipient of a new award.

Leo Manifold, aged 12, received the first National Association of Karate and Martial Art Schools (NAKMAS) Star Award, recognising his outstanding competitive talents in kickboxing tournaments over a period of years.

Leo, a pupil at the Hart School, has been training with Emil Herzberg at the Pye Green Community Centre in Hednesford from a very young age and hopes to achieve his black belt early in 2019.

Emil said: "I'm so pleased for Leo receiving this new award; it's a big accolade for both Leo, and for the academy. He is a great role model to our other members as he is a fine and genuine martial artist."

NAKMAS national chairman Joe Ellis, said: "We have been hearing about Leo's talents for some time and have pleasure in making him our first recipient."

The award will include a specially designed gold foiled Star Award certificate, highlighting the recipient on the new Star Award website. NAKMAS will also allocate some funding to promote the recipients and their clubs via social media.

Scholars play-off promotion hopes are put to Bed

CHASETOWN'S promotion dreams ended in heartbreak as they suffered a 2-1 play-off semi-final defeat at Bedworth United.

The Scholars went into the match on the back of a 5-0 win over champions Basford. However, hopes of joining Hednesford in the Evo-Stik League Premier were dashed.

In front of a crowd of 517, the Greenbacks drew first blood inside two minutes with a goal from Khaelem Bailey-Nicholls. By 11 minutes Luke Keen's header had doubled the lead.

The visitors appealed for a spot-kick when George Cater was pushed to the ground by a United defender. Substitute Ryan Wynter just failed to connect with a header at the start of the second half and Scholars were denied by former Pittmen stopper Dan Crane. Crane also denied Muzzy Nduna and Wynter had his effort cleared off the line with Nduna unable to connect for the rebound.

In stoppage time, Jack Langston confidently converted from the spot after Chris Baker was brought down by Crane and - but it was too little to late.

Boss takes Pride as Sporting crowned champs



Celebrations - Sporting champions

PROUD boss Andy Paddock hailed the 'perfect day' after Wolverhampton Sporting Community lifted the West Midlands Premier Division trophy.

Sporting were handed the prize on Saturday, having earlier blasted through the 100-point barrier courtesy of a 3-0 win over Malvern Town.

They then ended their league campaign with a 3-2 win over Cradley Town on Monday and still

have the JW Hunt Cup and League Cup to concentrate on.

Paddock said: "Malvern gave us a guard of honour on to the pitch. There was a great atmosphere around the place. I'm pleased for the players, they deserve all the credit."

"But no-one deserves the success more than the people behind the scenes. The chairman was out on the tractor cutting the grass before the game and that just sums it up."

A huge amount goes on to make sure the club functions properly. It was great to see people who have worked so hard enjoying themselves."

The result meant Sporting, who play at Pride Park, Hazel Lane, Great Wyrley, finished with 34 wins from 38 league fixtures, scoring 48 goals in the process. It was also their 18th straight win in an unbeaten run which now stretches for 21 matches.

School teams on the ball for success



The Wolgarston girls under-16 squad

TWO teams from the same school are on the ball, becoming Staffordshire district champions again.

The under-16s girls, reigning Stafford District Cup holders, retained their title, triumphing in a round robin tournament against Walton and King Edward VI High Schools, from Stafford and Stone's Alleynes High. Sally Stanton, head of PE, said: "It is an amazing achievement for them to win the title again."

The Year 11 boys followed suit, making it a hat-trick of District Cup titles with a 3-0 win over Stafford's Blessed William Howard with goals from Sam Athrell, Alex Farmer and Alex Wingfield. They have remained unbeaten in the tournament during their time at Wolgarston.

PE teacher Matt Skinner said: "The entire squad has represented the school to a fantastic level."



The successful Year 11 boys team

Draw a fair result as both teams safe

HEATH HAYES 2 Stafford Town 2 WITH both sides now safe the game was played in a more relaxed atmosphere and both sides settled for a fair draw.

The game kicked into life in the second half when two goals in three minutes from James McGrady put Hayes in the driver's seat only for Stafford to come back with two late goals through Tom Wright and Lennie Baker, a draw a fair result on the day.

*** The Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Ketterley, Telford. Thursday, May 10, 2018

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KHAN TOTS UP FIRST CENTURY

Aldridge 1st XI vs Cannock 1st XI
OVERSEAS player Faizan Khan was the big hit as Cannock racked up a score of 291-7 after opting to bat first at Aldridge.

Khan smashed 111 from 105 balls to bring up his first century for Cannock. Adam Benton scored 44.

After a solid opening stand of 87, a flurry of wickets left Aldridge reeling at 112-5 but some middle order resistance ensured that the match ended in a draw with Aldridge on 177-7.

Cannock 2nd XI vs Aldridge 2nd XI
CANNOCK opted to bat first but after the loss of early wickets, 36 from Elliott Horton pushed them to a moderate 148. Aldridge easily reached the target in the 48th over with six wickets left.

Beacon 3rd XI vs Cannock 3rd XI
AFTER Cannock opted to bowl first, a brilliant spell from Cameron Osborne (5-26) reduced Beacon to 42-6, but the hosts recovered to 109 all out. Osborne followed up with some excellent batting as he and Ian Slyn put on 110 for the first wicket to win the game for the visitors. Slyn scored 35 not out with Osborne unbeaten on 47.

Cannock 4th XI vs Hammerwich 3rd XI
TOM Hinks took 4-55 to restrict the visitors to 157, paving the way for Cannock's first win of the season. Kevin Pearce (46), Mark Boden (36) and Andy Elliott (33) meant that the hosts were always on course to win and reached the target of 158 with four overs and five wickets to spare.

Elsewhere, an opening stand of 117 by Laeq Chishti (59) and Sabawoon Zazai (53) laid the foundations for a Penkridge total of 234-7 at Attock. In reply, Attock were bowled out for 164. C&R Hawks fell 100 runs short of their 286 target against Harborne. Ben Traat hit an unbeaten 156 in 161 balls as Hammerwich racked up 293-4 in the Staffs Clubs Championship. Penn forced a draw at 249-7. Jonathan Pearson's 54 helped Rugeley to 250-8 but Cosley won by seven wickets while Armitage captain Ryan Elstone hit 130 in his side's 288. Ben Beck scored 69 and took three wickets as Springvale fell 22 runs short at 266.

Club gets kicks from new home



Councillors Phil Hewitt and Bryan Jones with kickboxing club members

A KICKBOXING club has moved to bigger and better premises thanks to an increase in membership.

Huntington Kickboxing Club, run by Shaun Preece, a veteran World Kickboxing title holder and an inductee into the sport's Hall of Fame, has moved from Littleton Green School to Image Business park, Hednesford.

The relocation and much of the refurbishment has been undertaken by parents and friends of the young club members and has been helped by a grant of £500 from Staffordshire County Councillors Phil Hewitt and Bryan Jones through the Community Fund. They were both very impressed that the club

provides opportunities for local communities, in particular that it offers school age children, adults and families a safe environment in which to train, gain confidence and learn life skills and maintain fitness.

Both councillors visited the club and said they were delighted to be supporting a group that welcomes both sexes of all abilities and ages at such a fantastic venue.

Preece said the club was always keen to participate in local initiatives by offering displays and support for community and fundraising events.

To join, contact either Shaun Preece on 07976 774861 or Caron Jones on 07971 694781.

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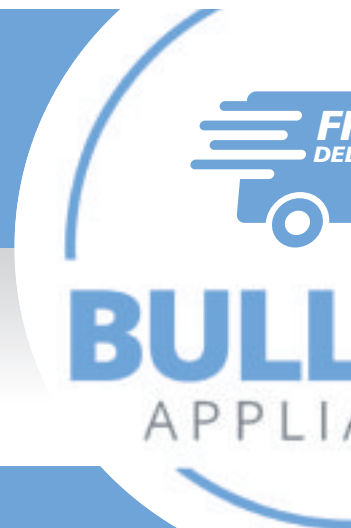
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